

# EXCEL SAGA™

15



story and art by RIKDO KOSHI

# EXCEL SAGA



エクセル

♡ SAGA

大巻あずさ

15

HARD ON THE OUTSIDE...  
soft on the inside...?



# EXCEL SAGA 15

STORY AND ART BY  
RIKDO KOSHI



# EXCEL SAGA

# 15

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(EXCEL SAGA BONUS SECTION)

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**PARENTAL ADVISORY**  
EXCEL SAGA is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. This volume contains fantasy violence and mature situations.

カレン

# MISSION 1

カレン

HAPPY REVOLUTION

CONGRAT-  
ULATIONS  
!

CONGRAT-  
ULATIONS  
!

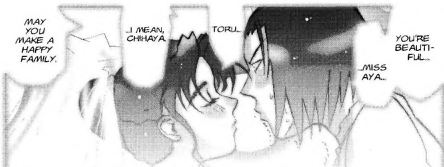
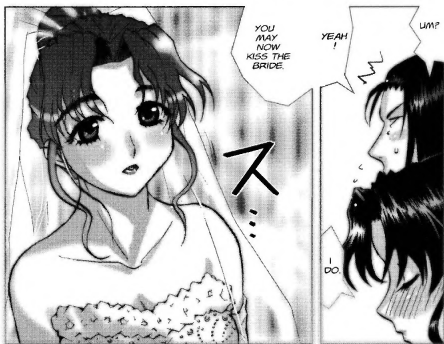
HEY,  
WATA-  
NABE--  
YOU  
DONE  
IT  
YET?!

CONGRAT-  
ULATIONS  
!

カレン

カレン

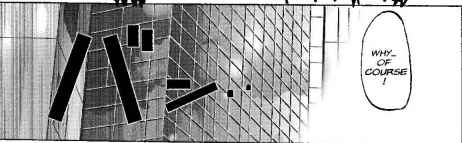






BUT  
HOW!?

THAT'S  
RIGHT!  
WE MUST  
MAKE  
A HAPPY  
FAMILY!



WHY...  
OF  
COURSE  
!



WELL,  
OKAY.

Be  
careful.

I NEED  
TO GO  
TO A  
BOOKSTORE.  
I'LL BE  
BACK  
SOON!!

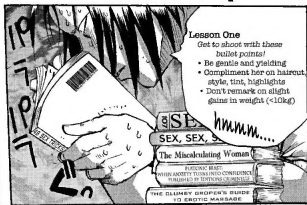
ALL OF  
A SUDDEN?  
DUDE,  
THERE'S  
ALWAYS  
SOMETHING  
WRONG  
WITH  
HIM.

BUT...

but...

Thez  
summik  
wraig  
wi' 'im  
aal o' a  
sudden,  
like.

















Ahm not  
th' one  
who's been  
neckin' th'  
stuff.

THESE  
CAN BE  
RECYCLED.



IVE BEEN  
NOTICING  
A LOT OF  
ENERGY DRINK  
BOTTLES IN  
THE TRASH,  
SUMIYOSHI-  
KUN.

ナ  
ミ  
ヨ  
シ



Wor  
mate's o  
dedicated  
one but.  
'Eez boond t'  
occomplish...

A diven't  
knaa th'  
one thing for  
cortain is that  
th' lod is  
completely  
knockood.

NO...  
LOOKS  
LIKE HE'S  
OUT COLD.  
WHAT'S  
WRONG  
WITH HIM?

I KNOW.  
BUT IF  
HE CAN  
HEAR,  
I DON'T  
WANT TO  
EMBARRASS  
HIM.

...erm  
...whatever  
it is 'eez tryin'  
t' accomplish...  
like.

EVERYTHING  
IS  
PREPARED  
NOW IT'S  
TIME  
FOR

FENG SHUI  
MY BLOOD TYPE  
MY HOROSCOPE  
A MESSAGE  
I SAW WRITTEN  
IN SOME DOG DOO...  
ALL AGREE THAT  
THIS IS MY  
LUCKY DAY.

実

THE

PLAN:

計

行!

サッ! 面

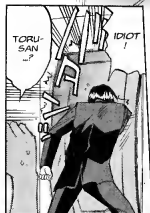
GO  
FOR  
IT.  
YOU'RE  
TRAINED.  
YOU'RE  
READY.

WELCOME  
HOME.

NOTHING  
CAN  
GO  
WRONG  
NOW.







TORU-SAN  
...?

IDIOT!



THANKS.

**GET OUT.**

(Amityville Horror voice)



**IT'S ALL GOING WRONG.**

DID I...  
DID I DO  
SOMETHING  
TO...  
UPSET  
YOU?

YOU...  
SEEM  
TO BE  
IN A  
BAD  
MOOD  
TODAY...



NO!  
I'M NOT  
IN A BAD  
MOOD!  
I JUST  
WANT  
TO ASK  
YOU...











YOUTH  
IS  
WONDERFUL,  
ISN'T IT?

PLEASE  
TURN  
OFF  
THE  
LIGHT.

OK.

HOW UN-  
FORTUNATE  
THAT  
OUR DUTIES  
SOMETIMES  
FORCE US  
TO PRY INTO  
THE PRIVATE  
AFFAIRS OF  
OTHERS.

コッ  
ッ

コッ  
ッ

oh...

ドキーン...

ドキーン...

I'M  
FINALLY...

Lesson Two  
Taking off your clothes

WAIT  
A  
MINUTE!  
I'm  
forgetting  
something

ドキーン...

CONTRA-



CEPTION!

I DIDN'T  
EXPECT  
THIS TO  
HAPPEN  
TONIGHT,  
SO I  
FORGOT  
ABOUT...



„NO!  
I'M WRONG!  
WE SHOULD  
TALK ABOUT  
HAVING  
CHILDREN  
FIRST, AND  
THEN...

WAIT.  
WE'RE  
GOING  
TO GET  
MARRIED  
ANYWAY!  
IT DOESN'T  
MATTER...



...AND THEN...  
AND THEN...  
AND THEN...



OH...  
SURE.

UM...HEY...  
I'M SORRY,  
BUT  
COULD  
YOU  
GET THE  
DOOR  
FOR ME?



WAIT  
A  
SEC!

THE  
DOOR-  
BELL?

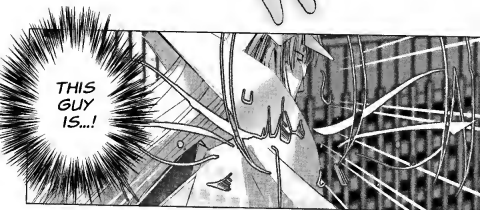
If it's  
wata, he dies  
here and now.





IS IT A  
SALESMAN?  
A FOLL  
TAKER...?  
A...







CHIHAYA-  
SAN!

STAY  
AWAY  
FROM  
HIM! HE'S  
DANGEROUS!  
HE'S  
CALLED..

カ  
ワ  
イ  
シ  
イ



...MS.  
HYATT?









WAIT A  
MINUTE!



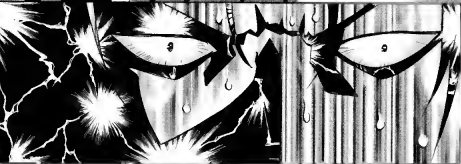
DON'T  
UNDER-  
ESTIMATE  
A MUNICIPAL  
EMPLOYEE!

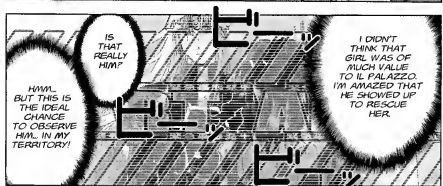
HOW  
DARE YOU  
KIDNAP A  
GUY'S WIFE  
RIGHT IN  
FRONT  
OF  
HIM?!



...HM?

LORD  
IL  
PALAZZO.





I WISH  
MY BRAIN  
HAD A  
"SNOOZE"  
BAR.

WHAT'S  
UP WITH  
ALL THOSE  
ALARM  
BELLS GOING  
OFF IN MY  
HEAD?

OH-HEY,  
MAN.

WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?

WHAT  
WAS HE  
GONNA DO  
WITH  
THIS..?

STILL  
IN HIS  
UNDER-  
WEAR?

OH!  
DUDE!  
YOU'RE  
SUPPOSED  
TO USE A  
WIFFLE-BALL  
BAT!

ホ  
ー



トカトカトカトカトカ

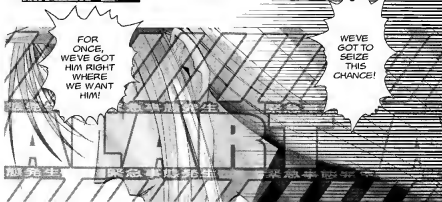
サ



GET  
THE  
MEN  
DOWN  
THERE  
IMME-  
DI-  
ATELY!



THEY'RE  
SENDING  
AS MANY  
AS  
POSSIBLE,  
SIR.



FOR  
ONCE,  
WE'VE  
GOT  
HIM  
RIGHT  
WHERE  
WE  
WANT  
HIM!

WE'VE  
GOT  
TO  
SEIZE  
THIS  
CHANCE!

先生 緊急事態 先生 緊急事態 先生 緊急事態



あああ

I DON'T  
KNOW,  
DOCTOR.  
HIS SIGNAL  
APPEARS  
TO BE COMING  
FROM  
ONE METER  
UNDERGROUND.



MR. IWATA  
LIVES IN  
THE SAME  
BUILDING!  
WHAT'S HE  
DOING?!



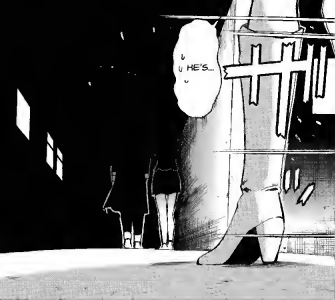
ERM...  
WHAT  
SHOULD  
WE DEE?

I DON'T  
KNOW,  
BUT IT  
DOESN'T  
LOOK  
GOOD.

MISSION 2  
LORD IL PALAZZO'S  
BIG DAY OUT







AYE. LERD  
IL PALAZZEE...  
OR SUMMIK.

THAT'S  
HIM,  
ISN'T  
IT?



SEE,  
THEY'LL  
TAKE  
CARE  
OF  
IT.

UNITS 1  
AND  
2 ON  
SITE!

WE  
HAVE  
NO  
ORDERS,  
ALSO,  
WE'RE  
OFF  
DUTY.

Should  
we not  
stop  
them?

Aye.  
Leave it  
up t' them  
as love  
excitement,  
like.

RE-  
QUESTING  
INSTRUC-  
TIONS,  
OVER!







I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED, MY LORD. BUT I'M SORRY TO PUT YOU TO THE TROUBLE OF PICKING ME UP...

THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.

EXCUSE ME, SIR... BUT WHAT WAS I DOING BACK THERE?

UM...



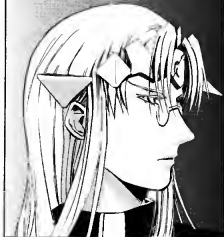
I ENJOY WALKING AMONG THE COMMONERS FROM TIME TO TIME.

THE BASE...

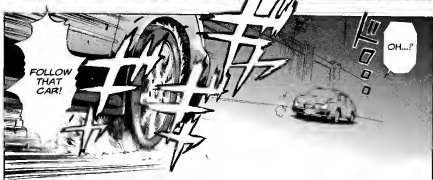
I FEEL LIKE WE'VE BEEN AWAY FROM BASE FOR A LONG TIME.

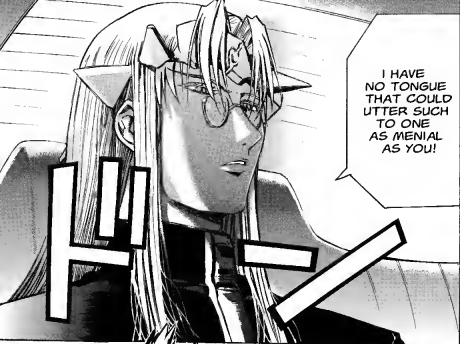
GET OUT YOUR CAMERAS! TAKE SOME SHOTS! (GRRR! HOW FRUSTRATING!)

THEY'RE HAVING A CONVERSATION, SIR!









I HAVE  
NO TONGUE  
THAT COULD  
UTTER SUCH  
TO ONE  
AS MENIAL  
AS YOU!



JEEZ!  
WHATTA  
GUYS  
GOTTA  
DO T MAKE  
A LIVIN!

NO  
FARE!  
JUST GET  
THE HELL  
OUTTA  
MY CAR,  
FREAKS!

LORD  
PALAZZO  
IS RIGHT.





THAT'S  
SUCH A  
WONDERFUL  
ATTITUDE,  
MY LORD!

I'LL  
DO MY  
BEST TO  
KEEP UP,  
SIR.

IT IS  
IMPORTANT  
FOR A  
LEADER  
TO SET  
A GOOD  
EXAMPLE.

U,  
U,  
U,

I DON'T  
FIND IT  
TROUBLE-  
SOME TO  
PROCEED  
ON FOOT.

I'M  
SORRY  
TO HAVE  
MADE AN  
INAPPRO-  
PRIATE  
SUGGESTION,  
SIR.



I CAN'T  
RELY ON  
THOSE  
MEN'S  
DESCRIP-  
TIONS.

FINALLY  
I CAN  
SEE  
THEM!

WE'VE  
GOT  
THE  
CAMERA  
OVERHEAD,  
SIR!



FLY  
THEM  
FROM  
ABOVE!

THE  
INTELLI-  
GENCE  
UNIT  
HAS  
ARRIVED  
SIR!



AH,  
YES.

IMAGE  
COMING  
UP  
NOW!





PERHAPS  
IT'S  
JUST  
BROKEN,  
SIR.

ahem.



WHAT  
IS  
THIS?

I'M  
SORRY,  
LORD IL  
PALAZZO.

SHE  
DOES SEEM  
TO HAVE LOST A  
LOT OF BLOOD.  
COULD SHE  
HAVE SOME  
SORT OF  
DISEASE?

U  
v

SHALL  
I GET  
YOU A  
TEA OR  
SOMETHING,  
SIR?

IT'S  
CALLED  
A VENDING  
MACHINE,  
MY LORD.  
YOU  
INSERT  
MONEY  
AND IT  
GIVES YOU  
A DRINK.

...MAY I  
REFRESH  
SOME  
FLUIDS?

SIR,  
OUR  
EXAMINATION  
TURNED  
UP NO  
ILLNESSES  
OR  
CONDITIONS.



IT IS  
UNPLEASANT  
TO SEE  
SUCH  
EYESORES  
ON THE  
STREET.



WHAT A  
PRIMITIVE  
DEVICE!



YES...  
BUT  
PERHAPS  
WE SHOULD  
STOP  
WALKING.

SHALL  
WE  
KEEP  
GOING  
THIS WAY,  
SIR?

SEE IF HE  
TAMPERED  
WITH IT.  
DISASSEMBLE  
IT AND  
EXAMINE IT  
PIECE BY  
PIECE!

THE  
VENDING  
MACHINE  
MAY  
CONTAIN  
A CLUE  
TO HIS  
PLANS!



I HOPE  
YOU'LL  
EXPLAIN  
TO US  
WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON.

WHAT'S  
UP,  
DOC?

IS  
HE?  
IS HE THE  
REAL IL  
PALAZZO?

WHAT  
IS HE  
DOING?



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT..

WELL...

THAT WAS REALLY HIM?  
THE MAN FROM THE HOLOGRAM...?

Leave it, Iwata.

AYASUGI, AYASUGI..

IT LOOKS AS IF SHE HAS REGAINED HER MEMORY. SHE'S VOLUNTARILY ACCOMPANYING IL PALAZZO.

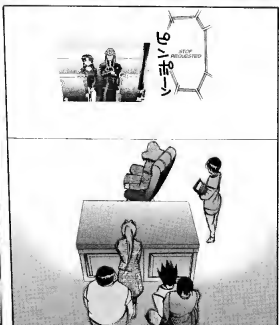
Ah wwwwen't mention that name, Matsuya.

WHAT HAPPENED TO MISS AYASUGI?

AS YOU CAN SEE, MY AGENTS ARE ON THEIR TRAIL.

FOLLOWING THEIR DRAMATIC ESCAPE ON THE MONITOR...?

WELL... WHAT ARE WE DOING...?



LOOK  
AT  
THOSE  
NEON  
SIGNS

THIS  
THE  
WAY  
SIR?

YOU  
SEE,  
SIR, THIS  
WAY YOU  
DON'T HAVE  
TO TALK TO  
THE DRIVER.

HE'S  
CERTAINLY  
NOT  
SPENDING  
MUCH  
MONEY  
TONIGHT.

IT  
SEEMS  
RATHER  
A HUMBLE  
WAY FOR  
SUCH AN  
AMBITIOUS  
MAN TO  
TRAVEL.





HUMANS  
ARE  
SUPPOSEDLY GIFTED WITH  
THE ABILITY  
TO MAKE  
NEAR-TERM  
SACRIFICES  
IN ORDER  
TO ACHIEVE  
LASTING  
BENEFITS.

PEOPLE  
IN THIS  
CITY LIVE  
IN A DREAM  
WORLD. A  
TEMPORARY  
DREAM,  
MADE  
POSSIBLE  
ONLY BY THE  
PROFLIGATE  
CONSUMPTION  
OF FOSSIL  
FUELS.



IT'S  
HUMAN  
NATURE  
FOR THEM  
TO WANT  
TO FLOCK  
TOGETHER.

BUT  
WHAT  
THEY  
LACK IS  
A GOOD  
SHEPHERD  
TO LEAD  
THEM IN  
THE RIGHT  
DIRECTION.

THEY  
CELEBRATE  
THE DIGNITY  
OF THE  
INDIVIDUAL,  
BUT THIS  
CONCEPT  
INDEED  
FLIES IN  
THE FACE OF  
THEIR  
COLLECTIVE  
INSTINCT



WHAT  
ARRO-  
GANCE!

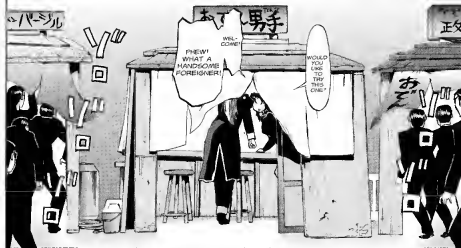
THEREFORE,  
THE FLOCK  
WILL BE  
BETTER  
OFF UNDER  
THE CROOK  
OF A  
STRONG  
LEADER.

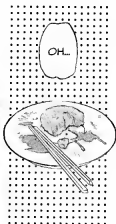


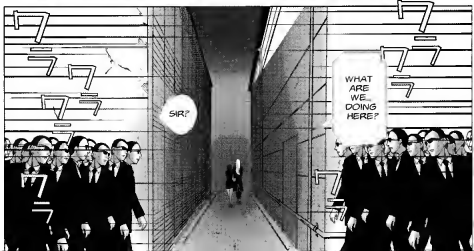
THAT'S  
A FOOD  
VENDOR,  
SIR. IT'S  
A KIND OF  
RESTAU-  
RANT.

WHAT  
IS THAT  
FACILITY  
FOR?

I THINK  
YOU ARE  
ABSOLUTELY  
RIGHT,  
LORD  
IL  
PALAZZO.







WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE?





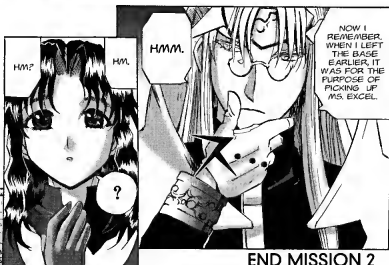


WAIT!









END MISSION 2

PURPLE-HAIRED PRISONER! HAVE YOU BEEN TAILORING YOUR UNIFORM AGAIN?

SILENCE,  
BLONDE  
PRISONER!  
LIGHTS  
OUT WAS  
THREE  
HOURS  
AGO!

SENIOR,  
THIS IS  
STILL  
BETTER  
THAN LIVING  
OUTDOORS,  
ISN'T IT?

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE HAD TO STRUGGLE FOR THESE THINGS, PRISON IS NOT WITHOUT ITS ADVANTAGES.

FREE  
ROOM  
AND  
BOARD.

カッーン  
カッーン  
カッーン

EXCEL'S AGA

כ"כ"כ

IN  
SPITE OF  
THIS, YOUR  
ATTITUDES  
HAVE FAILED TO  
IMPROVE DURING  
YOUR TIME AT  
OUR MAINLAND  
FACILITY.

YOU CHICKS  
ARE LUCKY TO BE  
INCARCERATED IN  
A DEMOCRATIC  
COUNTRY  
LIKE OURS  
WHERE HUMAN  
RIGHTS ARE  
SAFEGUARDED  
BY LAW.

||||

||||

+

+

+

+

..HUMAN  
RIGHTS ARE  
HELD TO A  
SOMEWHAT  
LESS  
STRINGENT  
STANDARD!

THEREFORE  
WE ARE  
SHIPPING  
YOU TO AN  
ISLAND WHERE,  
SHALL WE  
SAY, HA...  
HA...

||||

THIS  
WILL BE  
THE FINAL  
DESTINATION  
FOR YOU ALL.  
YES, FOR  
YOU...

||||





STEEP  
CLIFFS  
RISE SHEER  
ABOVE THE  
WAVE-TOSSED  
SEA ON THIS  
ISLE OF NO  
RETURN!

...the  
**condemned!**

# MISSION 3 PREACH ME THE GOSPEL



ZOMBIE  
CANNIBALISTIC  
SAVAGES AWAIT,  
READY TO  
SUBJECT  
PRISONERS  
TO A JUNGLE  
HOLOCAUST  
THAT WILL  
MAKE THEM  
DIE SLOWLY!

ITS HIGH  
WALLS ARE  
SURROUNDED  
BY WOODS.  
THE  
PRESERVE  
OF SAVAGE  
BEASTS.  
BARBED,  
CLAWED,  
FANGED!



ITS  
GROUNDS  
ARE LITTERED  
WITH THE DRIED  
CARCASSES  
OF THOSE  
WHO TRIED  
TO ESCAPE!  
THE WIND  
BLOWS AMONG  
THE BONES LIKE  
THE SCREECH  
OF A DEVIL!



No, I  
wanna stay.  
Get my  
handcuffs  
off, you  
dummy!

I'm  
trying,  
Senior! Don't  
worry, I'm a  
first-class  
lock  
picker!



We've  
got to  
get out  
of here,  
Senior.

WE  
DON'T  
KNOW  
WHAT'S  
OUTSIDE  
THE WALLS!  
NO ONE'S  
EVER MADE  
IT THAT  
FAR!

Out  
of the  
frying  
pan, into  
the  
coldere.

THAT  
LAST PART  
WAS PURE  
SPECULATION,  
OR, SHOULD  
I SAY,  
HYPERBOLE!



WHAT  
OTHERS CALL  
HELL YOU WILL  
CALL HOME!  
AND, BY HELL  
STANDARDS, YOUR  
SUFFERING WILL BE  
LEGENDARY--EVEN  
FOR HELL!

First-class  
nose  
picker, more  
like

Senior,  
please  
be still,  
okay?

Oh, is  
that why  
we had an  
extended  
vacation  
in a cell?



It was  
a life of  
relative  
ease.

You  
said,  
quote,  
three  
hots and  
a cot, know  
what I'm  
saying?

Senior,  
you said what  
a good life  
we had  
there.



HOW  
PITEOUS  
IS THE  
FATE OF  
YOU  
WOMEN!

BOUND  
BOTH AS  
ADJECTIVE  
AND VERB  
FOR LIFE IN  
PURGATORY!

Senior, you said,  
quote, I hope  
the food on  
this forsaken  
island prison  
they're sending  
us to is even  
better.

Are you  
missing it?  
Is that why  
you're so  
slow?



WAIT...  
PURGA-  
TORY'S  
NOT  
AS BAD  
AS  
HELL...

Senior, pride  
is not as  
important  
as serving  
our Lord  
Il Palazzo.

I was  
only trying  
to maintain  
a positive  
outlook!  
I never  
abandoned  
my pride!

(ahem)  
YOU  
NOW  
HAVE THE  
OPTION TO  
TERMINATE  
AND BE  
CREMATED  
ON THE  
PREMISES.



But  
there was  
on infinite  
procession of  
guards!

Why do  
you think  
I made  
four escape  
attempts?!

How  
DARE you  
question my  
deep-down  
body  
thirst to  
serve Lord  
Il Polozzo!



I  
suffered  
from  
short  
poles!

The bars  
were made  
of some  
tough  
metallic  
substance!



Thank you  
for finally  
explaining what you  
were doing back then,  
Senior. I assumed  
that you had just  
cracked  
up

And I  
couldn't dig  
our way out,  
because the  
spoons were  
plastic!





...THAT  
ONCE  
ON THAT  
ISLE...

...THEY  
WILL BE  
SUBJECTED  
TO  
TORTURES  
BOTH  
SAVAGE...

...AND  
sensual!



HMM...  
YES,  
THOSE  
TWO...  
THEY  
DON'T  
SEEM  
TO  
REALIZE...

NO. 3855  
AND 3856!  
NO TALKING  
DURING THE  
CAPTAIN'S  
FAVORITE  
PART  
OF THE  
SPEECH!



UNABLE TO  
TELL BETWEEN  
PLEASURE AND PAIN,  
YOUR DEGRADATION  
WILL BE COMPLETE!  
SURELY, YOU WILL NO  
LONGER BE HUMAN,  
BUT A CAGED  
ANIMAL!

WHAT'S  
HE  
TALKING  
ABOUT?

IS THIS  
SOME KIND  
OF SEXUAL  
HARASS-  
MENT  
THINGIE?

THE LASH WILL  
FALL AGAIN AND  
AGAIN ON YOUR  
NAKED SKIN! FIRM  
YOUNG LIMBS  
SHINING WITH  
SWEAT WILL  
STRUGGLE IN  
THEIR CHAINS  
TO NO AVAIL!



OKAY!

ALL  
THIS WILL  
SURELY  
COME  
TO PASS...  
UNLESS...  
UNLESS I  
CHOOSE TO  
SHOW  
MERCY.

YOUR FACE  
IS TREMBLING,  
MY PRETTY.  
SO, NOW, TELL  
ME WHAT I  
WISH TO  
HEAR.



NOT  
EVEN  
MY LORD  
HAS YET  
TOUCHED  
ME!



DOES  
"NO"  
REALLY  
MEAN  
NO?  
YES!!!



STINKING  
COMMONER!  
FEEL THE  
FISTS OF  
YOUR  
COMING  
RULER!



SENIOR,  
WAIT!











HMM.  
TACTICAL  
DISAD-  
VANTAGE.



WAS IT  
WORTH  
IT?



ARE  
YOU  
SAYING  
WE  
SHOULD  
SURRENDER?



TIME  
TO PACK  
IN THE  
MUTINY.



NEVER!

!?



IM-  
POSSIBLE,  
SIR!



FULL  
RE-  
VERSE!



WE  
CAN'T  
LET THEM  
ESCAPE!  
I'LL LOSE  
SICK  
DAYS!



WE'VE ENTERED  
THE TURBULENT  
WATERS THAT  
SURROUND THE  
ISLAND OF LIVING  
DEATH! FIERCE  
WHIRLPOOLS  
DRAG THE  
DAMNED DOWN  
TO SCREAMING  
OBLIVION!



WHAT  
WAS  
THE  
OTHER  
THING..?

WHIRL-  
POOLS!  
I KNEW I  
LEFT TWO  
THINGS  
OUT, BUT I  
COULDN'T  
REMEMBER.

NO WHIR-  
LING!

I CAN'T  
SWIM  
WITH  
THESE  
CUFFS!  
Brrrr!

THE ICY  
SEAS RESOUND  
WITH CRIES  
FROM LOST  
SOULS CAST  
INTO THE  
WATERY  
PIT!

YAAAAA!

...RIGHT.  
THE  
SHARKS.

EGAD!





YES, I  
SUPPOSE  
IT'S TOO  
RISKY FOR  
US TO TRY  
AND RETRIEVE  
THEM. AFTER  
ALL, THEY HAVE  
SHARP TEETH, AND  
WE'VE ONLY  
GOT ASSAULT  
RIFLES.



FOOLISH  
GIRLS.









THAT  
LOOKS  
VERY  
PAINFUL.

...THIS  
VISION...?



YOU  
SEEM  
BURDENED,  
CHILD.

...AS A  
SERVANT  
OF GOD.

IT  
IS RE-  
QUIRED  
OF ME...

PHEW.  
YOU  
SAVED  
US!

gasp!  
choke!  
koff!

OH  
YEAH,  
PRIEST,  
FUNNY  
HAT. THANKS  
AGAIN!



NEITHER  
DO I  
CONDEMN  
YOU.

OH,  
THIS? IT'S  
NOTHING.  
NEVER  
SLOWED ME  
DOWN.



LET  
ME SHOW  
YOU THE  
TRUTH.

YE SHALL  
KNOW THE  
TRUTH,  
AND THE  
TRUTH  
SHALL MAKE  
YOU FREE.



shriek!

snap!

Give  
me  
strength!



WHAT?  
ALONE?  
THIS ISN'T  
THE  
DREADFUL  
PRISON  
OF DOOM,  
WHERE THOSE  
FORSAKEN  
SHED ENDLESS  
TEARS,  
AND SO  
FORTH?

YOU ARE HERE  
↓

WE  
THREE  
ARE ALL  
ALONE HERE  
ON THIS  
UNCHARTED  
DESERT  
ISLE.

WHAT?



HIM,  
TOO?

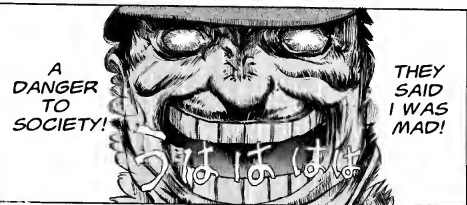
...THAT'S  
THE  
PRISON.  
I TOO  
WAS SENT  
THERE IN  
CHAINS.



YOU  
SEE...

AS  
PRIMITIVE  
AS CAN  
BE?

LIKE  
ROBINSON  
CRUSOE?



A  
DANGER  
TO  
SOCIETY!

THEY  
SAID  
I WAS  
MAD!

うはははは



LORD,  
SAVE  
US!

I'VE HAD  
ENOUGH  
FOR ONE  
DAY!  
Or  
even a  
lifetime.

わはははは



!?

MY...

...MY...

MY  
LORD!

LORD!



IT'S  
THE  
LORD  
GOD!

IT'S  
LORD IL  
PALAZZO!



WE'RE  
UNWORTHY  
OF YOUR  
EFFORTS  
ON OUR  
BEHALF,  
LORD IL  
PALAZZO!

WELL,  
I'VE  
COME  
TO  
TAKE  
YOU  
HOWE.

WE'VE  
MISSED  
YOU  
TERRIBLY,  
SIR!

I SEE  
HIS  
SHINING  
RADIANCE...



WE'RE  
SO  
SORRY  
TO HAVE  
TROUBLED  
YOU,  
SIR!

IT'S A  
LONG  
STORY,  
SIR!

IT  
TOOK  
SOME  
TIME TO  
LOCATE  
YOU WITH  
MY RADAR.  
WHAT HAVE  
YOU BEEN  
DOING?



...AM I  
DECEIVED  
?

OR...







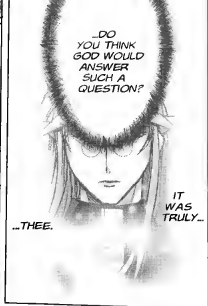




I "ROSE"  
NOT TO  
TEMPTATION  
AND WAS  
VOUCHSAFED  
YOUR  
VISION  
THEREBY!

HE  
TESTED  
ME BY  
SENDING  
DISCIPLES  
IN THE  
GUISE OF  
WANTON  
WOMEN!

note:  
not  
the  
disciples



...DO  
YOU THINK  
GOD WOULD  
ANSWER  
SUCH A  
QUESTION?

...THEE.

IT  
WAS  
TRULY...



AND  
THAT'S  
A DIRECT  
QUOTE  
FROM THE  
GOSPEL--  
IN THE  
PUBLIC  
DOMAIN!!!

TILL  
HEAVEN  
AND EARTH  
PASS, ONE  
JOT OR ONE  
TITTLE SHALL  
IN NO WISE  
PASS FROM  
THE LAW,  
TILL ALL BE  
FULFILLED!



YOU  
KNOW  
WHAT "GOSPEL,"  
MEANS,  
HONEYCHILE?  
GOOD NEWS!  
AND THE  
GOOD NEWS IS  
THAT THEE AND  
I ARE A-GONNA  
GO OUT AND  
SPREAD IT!!  
HAL-LE-LU-JAH!

HUH  
?



WHAT  
?

YEA, WOE  
UNTO THE  
TWO OF US  
IF WE PREACH  
NOT THE  
GOSPEL!  
JUST THE  
TWO OF US!  
BUILDING  
CASTLES  
IN THE  
SKY!



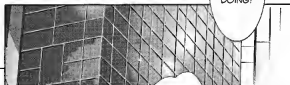
AND  
THEN  
SHALL  
THE  
END  
COME!  
ISN'T  
THAT  
GREAT?

DID  
YOU KNOW  
THAT WE ARE  
COMMANDED  
TO PREACH  
THE  
GOSPEL TO  
EVERY  
CREATURE?  
TO WITNESS  
IT UNTO  
ALL  
NATIONS?





AND  
HOW IS MR.  
WATANABE  
DOING?



WHAT  
IS THAT  
SUPPOSED  
TO  
MEAN?

Were you  
peeping in  
on him?

THE  
DUDE  
WON'T  
EVEN COME  
OUT OF HIS  
APARTMENT...

YES,  
IT ALL  
HAPPENED  
AT THE  
WORST  
POSSIBLE  
MOMENT.

IT'S  
VERY  
UNDERSTAND-  
ABLE...

'Eez  
really  
follen  
apurt.



EXCELSAGA



AND IT  
WILL BE  
EASY TO  
RETRIEVE  
IT NOW.

THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
I MUST HAVE  
BACK IN MY  
POSSESSION.

# MISSION 4 FORBIDDEN GROUND











YOU MUST BE VERY TIRED.



GO-  
JYOU-  
CHAN  
?

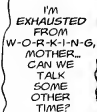
I'M NOT  
SURE WHY  
MOTHER  
PASSED SUCH  
ADVANCED  
TECHNOLOGY  
ON TO ME. IT'S  
ALL HAPPENED  
SO SUDDENLY...  
WITHOUT  
WARNING..

APPARENTLY.  
I'VE BEEN  
SO HAPPY...  
I MEAN,  
WORRIED  
WHILE YOU'VE  
BEEN GONE.  
WHERE HAVE  
YOU BEEN?

I'M  
HOME,  
GOJYOU-  
CHAN!

M-  
M-M-  
MUH-  
MUH...

OH,  
MY  
DEAR  
SON!  
THOSE  
DARK  
CIRCLES  
BENEATH  
YOUR EYES.  
ARE YOU  
EXHAUSTED?



I'M  
EXHAUSTED  
FROM  
W-O-R-K-I-N-G,  
MOTHER...  
CAN WE  
TALK  
SOME  
OTHER  
TIME?



HAS  
UMI  
BEEN  
KEEPING  
YOU UP  
LATE?

にゅ  
うらうら



WHY?



WHY  
DIFFICULT  
?



YES...  
BUT  
IT  
WAS  
DIFFICULT.



OH,  
SO YOU  
FINISHED  
WORKING  
ON  
FIRST?



...WHAT...



...ARE  
YOU  
TRYING  
TO GET  
ME TO  
DO,  
MOTHER  
...?



THERE  
WASN'T  
ANYTHING  
DIFFICULT  
ABOUT  
THE  
TASK,  
WAS  
THERE?



KYAA!  
I FORGOT  
MY PURSE!

I'M NOT  
TRYING  
TO MAKE  
YOU DO  
ANYTHING.  
YOU SHOULD  
JUST DO...  
WHATEVER YOU  
WANT TO  
DO, MY  
SON.



KA-WA-III!!  
!

OH,  
AUNT...  
I MEAN,  
MIWA-SAN.  
YOU'RE  
HOME.



AND,  
SEEING  
AS HOW  
I FINISHED  
MY JOB,  
I THOUGHT  
I'D COME  
HOME  
TO EAT.

EEEEEE!

I COULDN'T  
BEAR  
TO HAVE  
ANOTHER  
MEAL  
ALONE.

YOUR  
JOB  
?

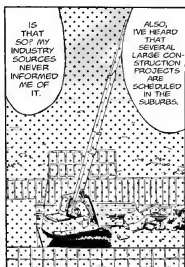


W-  
WHAT  
?

UMI,  
YOU  
LOOK  
LOVELY  
IN YOUR  
SCHOOL  
UNIFORM!









IT'S  
POSITIVE  
NEWS IN  
ANY EVENT  
FOR THE CITY'S  
ECONOMY.  
QUITE A BIT OF  
RENOVATION  
HAS BEEN  
GOING ON  
SINCE THAT  
SERIES OF  
BOMBING  
INCIDENTS.  
THAT'S A  
GOOD SIGN,  
TOO.

NO  
NEED  
TO  
BOTHER.



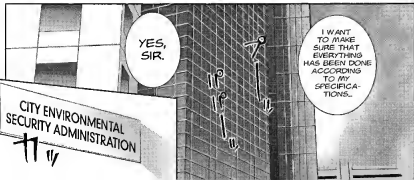
YES,  
SIR.  
I'M TOLD  
SHE  
IS.

I THOUGHT  
ISSHIKI WAS  
COMING  
BACK  
TODAY.  
ISN'T SHE?



IT  
MAKES  
MY JOB  
ALL THE  
MORE  
REWARDING

BY  
THE  
WAY...



YES,  
SIR.

I WANT  
TO MAKE  
SURE THAT  
EVERYTHING  
HAS BEEN DONE  
ACCORDING  
TO MY  
SPECIFICA-  
TIONS..

CITY ENVIRONMENTAL  
SECURITY ADMINISTRATION



Th' memory?  
Buckets a' it!  
Th' copyin'  
speed? Messagin'  
Transmittin'? Gans  
fleein' past yu man!  
This 'un can play any  
fawamat an' aol! Aye,  
th' batteries yu say but!  
Last till th' crack  
a' doom!

This  
MP3  
playaa  
is  
rock!

GOOD  
MORNING.

HEY,  
MISAKI  
GOOD  
MORNING.

NO  
KIDDING?



HMM...  
MAYBE  
I SHOULD  
GET  
ONE.

Can  
ye not  
just hev it  
instaoled  
in ya  
head?

THAT  
F==

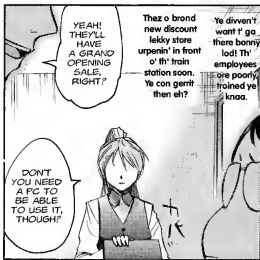


I'm sorry...  
it's...it's beyaand  
human camprehension  
ah guess.

AND WHEN  
THE ALARM  
ISNT RINGING,  
IT KEEPS  
PICKING UP  
THIS REALLY  
BAD  
DRIVE-TIME  
AM SHOW.

loud.

NO  
WAY, MAN.  
THE RADIO  
SHIOUJI PUT  
IN THERE'S  
BAD ENOUGH.  
IT'S GOT  
FEEDBACK.





FOR EXAMPLE, THIS ONE SAYS, "CHEER UP!" THEN WE GOT "FORGET HER!" AND "ENJOY LIFE!" I'M TELLIN' HIM "DIE HAPPY!" AND "DON'T BE A VICTIM!" AND HOW ABOUT A "GROUP DATE"?

I KNOW IWATA IS DOING HIS BEST, IN HIS OWN WAY, TO CHEER UP WATANABE-KUN.

WHADDYA THINK OF MY SIGNS? THIS OUGHTA CHEER HIM UP!

Oof o' me way.

Nae, th' worst is Iwata's... pep squad activities.

WATANABE! HALF THE WORLD'S POPULATION IS WOMEN! WHICH MEANS ONLY A QUARTER OF THE WORLD IS GOING TO DUMP YOU!

OBSSES-  
SIVELY  
HAPPY,  
MAYBE!

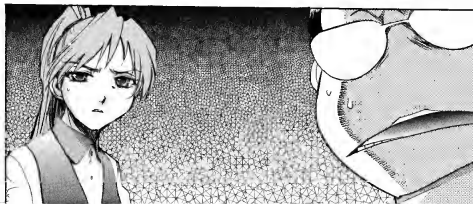
I DON'T  
KNOW  
WATANABE-  
KUN  
WAS SO  
OBSSIVE.

Iwata  
is ya man.  
Would  
ye please  
tell 'im  
I stop?

MATSUYA...  
SUMIYOSHI...  
IWATA...

AND,  
OH,  
WHAT A  
BEAUTIFUL  
MORNING!

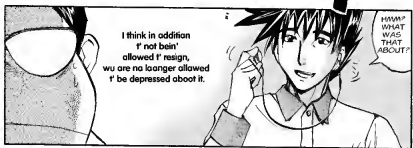
GOOOOOO  
MORNING!



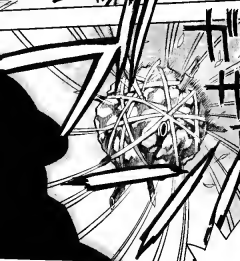










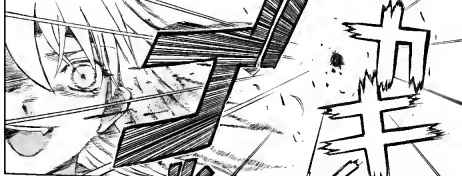


GOT  
HIM!



WILL  
THAT  
PRIEST  
EVER  
GIVE  
UP?

IVE  
GOT TO  
MARTYR  
HIM  
SOME-  
HOW!





















BUT I  
HAVE TO  
TROUBLE  
YOU  
A BIT  
MORE.

I'M  
SORRY...  
GOJYOU-  
CHAN.

AND  
I CAN'T  
WAIT TO  
SEE HOW  
THEY'LL  
RESPOND  
TO THE  
PROBLEM.

I'M  
GLAD  
THINGS  
ARE  
FINALLY  
STARTING  
TO  
HAPPEN.



END MISSION 4



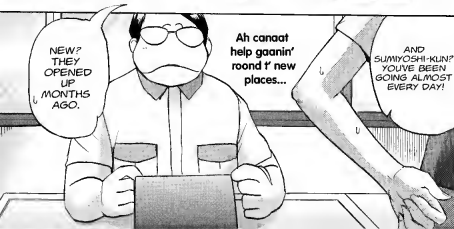
EXCEL'S AGA



**MISSION 5**  
**THE VISIBLE**  
**MACHINE**









Well,  
thez just sur many  
reasons I love  
th' store, mind!

DON'T  
YOU  
GET  
TIRED  
OF IT?



Th'  
saavice  
is  
champion

th'  
wurkaaz  
are  
prappa

an every  
time ah gans  
in there, thez  
seem I, be  
havin' sum kind  
a' sale



SUMIYOSHI-KUN, HASN'T IT OCCURRED TO YOU THIS COULD BE A SCAM TO CON THE CUSTOMERS?

MAYBE THEY JUST BOUGHT THEM UP FROM FAILED COMPANIES AND THEN RELABELLED THEM.

OH, MY GOD.

YOU MEAN BOTH YOUR LAPTOP AND MUSIC PLAYER ARE STORE BRAND?

Nearly aal th' products awah at th' new store are their aan label ye knaa.

Aye.

DON'T THEY JUST MAKE THEM SO THEY WORK FINE FOR SIX MONTHS, AND THEN THEY BREAK DOWN AND YOU HAVE TO FIND A NEW ONE?

*failed to actually snap fingers*

Wherevah thez come from th' store sacrifice norra bit o' quality, innit?

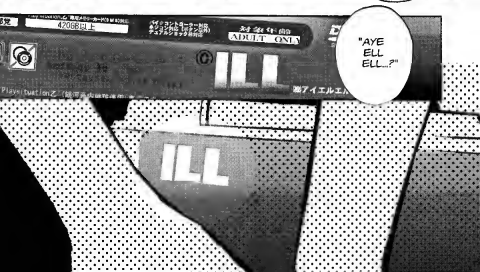
GAMES, TOO? THEY SEEM TO MAKE ALL KINDS OF THINGS.

Ye lave fightin' games. Will ye not check this 'un oot for yaasels?

Did ye knaa thez mek game playaaz too?

I'M JUST... IT JUST SEEMS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, YOU KNOW.

Matsuya, it's people like ye what discount th' efforts o' th' small an' medium-sized companies. Ye give th' major manufacturaaz a free ride.





THANK YOU, SIR, I COULDN'T RESIST BUYING IT. BUYING NEW LAPTOPS HAS BECOME A SORT OF HOBBY OF MINE.

I LIKE ITS ELEGANT, SIMPLE DESIGN.

DID YOU BUY ANOTHER NEW LAPTOP?

ER... YES, SIR.



YOU'VE NOTICED, SIR?

I WAS AWARE OF THAT. WHY, EVERY TIME I SEE YOU, YOU SEEM TO HAVE A NEW LAPTOP.



PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, DOCTOR. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN FASHION OR TRAVEL ANYWAY.

I'M PARTLY TO BLAME BECAUSE I DON'T GIVE YOU MANY DAYS OFF, BUT...

I HAVE NO RIGHT TO CRITICIZE OTHER PEOPLE'S HOBBIES, BUT I'D RECOMMEND THAT YOU SPEND YOUR MONEY ON SOMETHING NOT RELATED TO WORK.







ER,  
YES,  
SIR.

WHAT  
ABOUT  
SHOULD?  
WHAT DOES  
HE HAVE TO  
SAY ABOUT  
THIS?!

THIS  
SEARCH  
HAS THE  
HIGHEST  
PRIORITY!  
THE HIGHEST,  
DO YOU  
UNDER-  
STAND?!

NEITHER  
POSSIBILITY  
SEEMS VERY  
CREDIBLE,  
DOES IT...  
AND YET  
WE CAN'T  
DISCOUNT  
THEM.

...OR  
CAPTURED  
HER AND  
JAMMED  
HER UHF  
COMMUNI-  
CATION  
SIGNALS.

HE  
BELIEVES  
THAT  
SOMEONE  
EITHER  
DESTROYED  
ROPPON-  
MATSU.



BUT I  
SHOULD HAVE  
GUESSED IT...  
THERE WAS  
THAT EARLIER  
ATTEMPT BY  
AGENTS  
UNKNOWN  
TO ATTACK  
ROPON-  
MATSU.

THAT'S...  
A  
POSSIBILITY...  
WE NEED  
TO TAKE  
SERIOUSLY...

HE  
ALSO  
WONDERS  
IF THE  
TELEPORTATION  
TECHNOLOGY  
IL PALAZZO  
DEMONSTRATED  
COULD HAVE  
SOMETHING  
TO DO WITH HER  
DISAPPEARANCE.

AND THEN  
IL PALAZZO  
HIMSELF  
DARED TO  
STEP OUT  
IN THE  
OPEN.



WHEN  
I LOOK  
BACK NOW,  
I KNOW  
WHAT HE  
MEANT TO  
TELL US.

WE  
COULDN'T  
DO A  
THING TO  
PREVENT HIM  
FROM  
SNATCHING  
OUR  
HOSTAGE  
AWAY  
FROM  
US...



TO  
SNEER  
THAT  
ALL THE  
PREPARATION  
I HAVE  
MADE...IS  
INSUFFICIENT!

FOR  
HIM TO  
APPEAR...WAS  
TO BOAST  
THAT HE COULD  
TURN OUR  
LIVES UPSIDE  
DOWN  
WHenever  
HE  
CHOSE.



AS USUAL, SHE MUST BE DOING... WHATEVER SHE FEELS LIKE DOING...

...THAT'S PERHAPS BECAUSE WE'VE ALSO BEEN UNABLE TO CONTACT THE SR. PROFESSOR. MWA

WHAT IS IT?

NO, SIR, BUT... WELL...

I'M NOT EXPECTING MUCH NEWS ON THIS FRONT EITHER... BUT IS THERE ANY WORD OF TENMANGU SHOUJI?



YES, SIR.

A SPOT OF TEA, PLEASE.

*sigh* LET'S CONCLUDE THIS UNPRODUCTIVE MEETING.

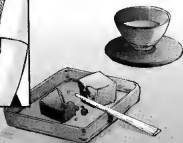


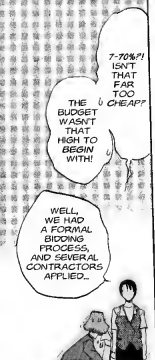
I'M NOT OVERLY FOND OF MODERN IT. COMPARED TO THE ANALOG ERA, WE HAVE TO SPEND SO MUCH.

OH, THAT. I'D FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT IT.

YES, DOCTOR. REGARDING THE UPGRADE OF THE CITY'S OBSOLETE INFORMATION SYSTEM.

WELL, HOW ABOUT MORE REGULAR MATTERS?





7-70%?!  
ISNT THAT  
FAR TOO  
CHEAP?

THE  
BUDGET  
WASNT  
THAT  
HIGH TO  
BEGIN  
WITH!

WELL,  
WE HAD  
A FORMAL  
BIDDING  
PROCESS,  
AND SEVERAL  
CONTRACTORS  
APPLIED...



...THE  
PROJECT  
FINISHED  
AHEAD OF  
TIME, FOR  
5-SEVENTY  
PERCENT  
BELOW  
BUDGET.



SEVENTY  
PERCENT,  
MS. MOMOCHI?  
HAVE YOU  
TAKEN LEAVE  
OF YOUR  
SENSES?

I DECIDED  
IT MIGHT BE  
BEST TO ACCEPT  
IT, ESPECIALLY IN  
LIGHT OF THE  
EXTRAORDINARY  
PRESSURE THE  
SEARCH FOR  
ROPPONMATSU  
HAS PUT ON OUR  
FINANCES.

ONE  
OF THEM  
OFFERED  
AN EXTRA-  
ORDINARILY  
LOW BID.



I  
CONSIDERED  
THAT  
POINT VERY  
CAREFULLY,  
SIR.

ヒ  
ヒ

AS A  
MUNICIPAL  
GOVERNMENT,  
WE CANT ALLOW  
OURSELVES  
TO INSTALL  
A BAD SYSTEM  
SIMPLY  
BECAUSE  
IT'S CHEAP!





I MUST SAY  
THEY SELL  
QUALITY  
PRODUCTS  
AT VERY  
LOW  
PRICES.



ACTUALLY,  
SIR, THIS VERY  
LAPTOP IS FROM  
THE SAME  
FIRM. IT WAS  
QUITE A  
BARGAIN IN OF  
ITSELF.



MM...  
HAVE  
YOU BEEN  
KEEPING  
TRACK?

IT SEEMS  
TO BE PAYING  
OFF IN SALES  
VOLUME.



EH-HH-  
XCELLENT!  
WHY, THIS  
IS WHAT  
CAPITALISM  
IS ALL  
ABOUT!

HO!  
"...THE ROLE  
MODEL FOR  
STRUGGLING  
FIRMS IN  
THESE HARD  
TIMES..."

NOT AS  
SUCH, SIR,  
BUT THE  
MAYOR PLANS  
TO HONOR THEM  
AS FUKUKA'S  
FASTEST-GROWING  
CORPORATION. THE  
CITY'S GETTING  
QUITE A BIT OF  
TAX REVENUE  
OFF THEM.









IT SEEMS  
LIKE  
JUST  
ANOTHER  
STORE...

HMPH.

WHY  
AM I  
DOING  
THIS...?



HM  
?

secretly,  
this is  
Hinata  
Hatsuya



EACH  
INPUT  
TERMINAL  
HAS AN  
INDEPENDENT  
CIRCUIT  
BOARD...  
AND THE  
COPPER  
SCREWS ARE  
ALL PLATED  
WITH GOLD...?

THESE  
ARE  
HIGH-END  
AMPLIFIERS  
FOR  
AUDIO-  
PHILES!



THE  
PRICES  
ARE  
RIDICU-  
LOUSLY  
LOW!

HOW  
IS IT  
POSSIBLE  
?

BUT  
ALMOST  
ALL  
THE A/V  
EQUIPMENT  
HERE IS  
HIGH-END!





EEEEEEK!

How Matsuya.



...FORGET ABOUT IT, OKAY?

F-F-F...

Did ye really just say "eeeeeeek" then? Ah wish Iwata had been around t' hear it.



I STAYED UP TWO NIGHTS IN A ROW PLAYING IT. THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE DONE THAT IN A LONG TIME.

THE GRAPHICS WERE EXCELLENT... IT WAS VERY ENTERTAINING.

Ye divven't need t' sneak about in disguise ye knaa.

Ye've gaan here for t' see th' game I lent ye eh?

++  
++  
++



L  
WHAT  
DID  
YOU  
GET?

Can ye  
not be  
honest  
Matsuya?  
Ye like  
this store,  
reef?



THREE  
TERA-  
BYTES  
OF  
MEMORY?  
FOR  
WHAT?

Hood drives w/  
15,000 rpm an' 300  
gigs a' memory  
wuz an sale in th'  
basement. I bought  
ten a' them.



NO, I  
JUST  
HAPPENED  
TO STOP IN,  
BECAUSE  
I WAS IN THE  
NEIGHBOR-  
HOOD...



I ADMIT  
THAT  
WAS AN  
EXTRA-  
ORDINARY  
GAME.

Sur  
ye came  
in here  
then.



HOW  
MANY  
ARE YOU  
UP TO  
NOW...?

For t'  
organize  
me pictaaaz  
better  
ye knaa.  
Me graphic  
imagaaz.

Aye...  
yu see,  
Ah'm  
thinkin'  
t' put five  
in each  
machine.



EVEN WATANABE-KUN IS HERE? oh, dear.



'E needs I keep 'is emotions in balance that lad. Ah say wu leave 'im 'alain (again).

IT'S OKAY IF HE ENJOYS THAT KIND OF STUFF. I MEAN, AS LONG AS HE UNDERSTANDS IT'S JUST A GAME..



Iwata just buys durzy junk like that American toy.

HE JUST COMES HERE TO HANG OUT WITH HIS FRIENDS?



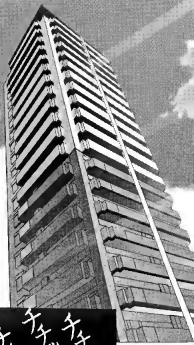
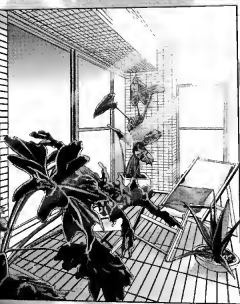
EVEN IWATA'S NOW INTO THE ILL BRAND?

It's not like he knows anything about electronics...

Aye. 'E knoaz summik about Watanabe, but.







7:30

チキッ チキッ チキッ  
チキッ







COME  
EAT YOUR  
BREAK-  
FAST,  
MIN-CHAN!

WHY  
NOT?  
WE CAN  
AFFORD  
IT!

COULD  
WE JUST  
BUY  
NEW  
SHEETS  
AGAIN?



OF  
COURSE,  
THE HOUSE-  
KEEPER WOULD  
SCREAM, AND  
SCREAM, AND  
SCREAM.



SHE'S  
BECOME  
SO  
CAUTIOUS  
LATELY!



MIN-CHAN!



MS.  
ELGALA,  
WE  
MUST GET  
READY FOR  
WORK.

DID YOU  
GAIN  
SOME  
WEIGHT,  
MINCE?

TODAY  
IT'S  
HIDA  
BEEF  
FOR  
BREAK-  
FAST!

OH,  
YOU'RE  
RIGHT.  
WE'RE  
RUNNING  
LATE!



SORRY  
TO  
KEEP  
YOU  
WAITING.

LET'S  
HURRY!

THANK  
YOU FOR  
TAKING US  
TO WORK  
EACH  
MORNING,  
MR.  
DRIVER.

YES,  
MA'AM.

サッ

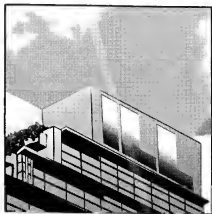


TRUE,  
TRUE,  
NINE OUT  
OF TEN,  
THOUGH.



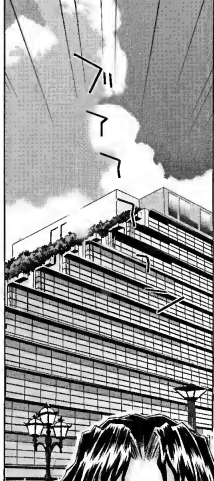
BUT  
MONEY  
MAY NOT  
MAKE  
EVERY-  
BODY  
HAPPY.

SENIOR  
HYATT,  
HOW  
NICE  
IT IS.  
TO BE  
RICH!



YES...  
SHE'D  
YELL  
AT US  
IF WE  
WERE  
LATE!

WE'RE  
JUST IN  
TIME.



GOOD  
MOR-NING,  
PRESIDENT  
EXCEL!



GOOD  
MORNING,  
MS. HYATT,  
MS.  
ELGALA.

YOU'RE  
LATE.

END MISSION 5





...IL  
PALAZZO!

# MISSION 6

GLORY, LIGHT, SHADOWS,  
AND THINGS LIKE THAT







I LIKE IT.  
THEIR  
POSITIVE  
SPIRIT  
LENS  
A THRILL  
TO OUR  
MEETINGS

...THAT  
OUR  
EMPLOYEES  
ARE SO  
OBEDIENT.



PERHAPS  
IT WASN'T  
LAUNCHED  
AS  
ABRUPTLY  
AS ALL  
THAT.

...WE  
MUST  
TAKE  
CONTROL  
OF THE  
CITY'S  
ECONOMY!

IN  
COMMEMORATION  
OF  
ACROSS'S  
ONE  
MILIONTH  
OPERATION.

TO  
TELL  
YOU THE  
TRUTH, I WAS  
UNPREPARED  
WHEN SUCH  
A MAJOR  
PROJECT  
AS THIS WAS  
LAUNCHED  
OUT OF THE  
BLUE.



INDEED.



...BUT  
I'M SO  
GLAD  
SENIOR  
EXCEL  
MADE  
IT BACK  
SAFELY.



It  
was bad...  
very bad...

YOU  
MEAN...  
BACK  
WHEN  
WE WERE  
ENDURING  
ALL THOSE  
HARDSHIPS?

LORD IL  
PALAZZO  
SEEMS TO  
HAVE DONE  
A LOT OF  
PLANNING.



IT'S NICE  
THAT WE  
CAN WORK  
TOGETHER  
AGAIN,  
SENIOR  
EXCEL.



H.M.



DO WE  
HAVE TO  
ACT LIKE  
THIS  
WHEN IT'S  
JUST THE  
THREE OF  
US?

UM,  
SENIOR  
EXCEL?



OKAY,  
PRESIDENT,  
WHATEVER,  
BUT--

MS.  
ELGALA,  
PLEASE  
CALL ME  
PRESI-  
DENT.



MS.  
ELGALA,  
MS. HYATT,  
I WANT TO  
HEAR YOUR  
OPINIONS  
NOW UPON  
OUR FUTURE  
DIRECTION.



SENIOR  
EXCEL...  
YOU'RE  
MAKING ME  
VERY  
UNCOMFORT-  
ABLE!

SAY IT  
PROPERLY!



AH,  
YOU'RE  
YELLING  
LIKE  
OLD  
TIMES,  
SENIOR.

I TOLD  
YOU  
WE MUST  
BEHAVE LIKE  
PROFESSIONALS  
ALL THE  
TIME!



VERY WELL,  
THEN, NOW  
THAT WE'VE  
MADE A  
SUCCESS OF THE  
ELECTRONICS  
STORE, WHAT  
SHOULD  
BE THE  
COMPANY'S  
NEXT  
MOVE?



YES.  
THAT'S  
SO!

...IS  
THAT  
SO?







YES,  
WE  
ARE!

YOU'RE  
AGENTS  
OF  
ACROSS,  
AREN'T  
YOU?

WE  
AREN'T  
TRAINED  
AS  
SPIES!

1P  
=1



SHE JUST  
SAID THAT  
SHE DOESN'T  
NEED US.  
*so easily*

I'LL  
BE  
FINE  
ON MY  
OWN.



BUT,  
SENIOR...  
WHO WILL  
HELP YOU  
WHILE WE'RE  
GONE...?

THEN  
KINDLY  
OBEY  
MY  
ORDERS.



ANYWAY,  
SENIOR...  
HOW CORRUPT  
CAN THEY  
REALLY  
BE...?



BRIBES!  
GRAFT!  
KICK-  
BACKS!

Mayoral  
Mansion





CARRYING  
YOU IS  
USUALLY  
SENIOR  
EXCEL'S  
JOB!

OH  
THAT  
SOUNDS  
GOOD,  
THEN.

SO  
WELL  
I WANT  
TO  
VOMIT!

HOW  
DID IT  
GO, MS.  
ELGALA?



...AT  
NIGHT, WE  
PERFORM  
RISKY  
MISSIONS  
IN THE  
SHADOWS.



DURING  
THE DAY,  
WE LIVE  
GRACIOUS  
LIVES...



WHAT  
IS THE  
NEXT  
STAGE  
OF THE  
PLAN?



I, ELGALA,  
WOULD PREFER  
TO GO COLD  
TURKEY.

I'M  
AFRAID  
I'LL GET  
ADDICTED  
TO THIS  
LIFESTYLE.

THE CITY  
COUNCIL,  
COMPARED  
TO THE  
SECURITY  
AT THE  
MAYOR'S  
PLACE,  
THAT  
SHOULD  
BE A  
SNAP.









YES,  
SIR, IT  
WAS...

I THOUGHT  
THE BIDDING  
WAS RIGGED  
SO THAT OUR  
DUMMY  
CORPORATION  
WOULD  
WIN THE  
CONTRACT!

WHAT  
?

WE  
LOST OUR  
BID TO BUILD  
THE NEW  
EXPRESSWAY  
LOOP, SIR.



IT  
SEEMS  
THAT THE  
COMPANY  
CHANGED  
LEADERSHIP  
JUST BEFORE  
THE BIDDING. WE  
DIDN'T FIND OUT  
UNTIL IT WAS  
TOO LATE.

WHY  
WOULD THEY  
BE SO  
RECKLESS?  
THEY'LL GAIN  
NOTHING BY  
GOING  
AGAINST  
ME!

BUT  
OUR PARTNER  
IN THE SCHEME  
DOUBLE-CROSSED  
US, LOWBALLING IT  
THEMSELVES  
AT THE LAST  
MINUTE.

EH  
?



LET  
ME  
KNOW  
AS  
SOON  
AS  
YOU  
FIND  
OUT.

WE'RE  
LOOKING  
INTO IT,  
SIR.

THEY DON'T  
SEEM TO  
KNOW THEIR  
ETIQUETTE.  
IS THE NEW  
MANAGEMENT  
FOREIGN?

ALSO...  
THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
HERE THAT  
CONCERNS  
ME A  
LITTLE BIT,  
SIR.

WE  
CAN STILL  
SQUEEZE  
OURSELVES  
INTO THE PROJECT  
LATER. THEY'LL  
LOSE MONEY  
IN THE END...  
HOW STUPID OF  
THEM!

STOCKS  
GO UP,  
STOCKS  
GO DOWN,  
YOU HAVE  
TO BE IN  
FOR THE  
LONG  
HAUL.

HMF.  
WELL,  
THAT'S THE  
MARKET  
FOR YOU.

SHARES  
IN BOTH THE  
CITY'S SUBSIDIARY  
CORPORATIONS,  
AND IN YOUR  
INVESTMENTS  
IN GENERAL,  
ARE IN DECLINE.

IT  
DOES  
BOTHER  
ME.

HOWEVER...

COULD  
YOU  
GET THE  
PHONE?

YES,  
SIR.

ONE  
MOMENT,  
SIR.

IN THE  
MOST OF  
THE CITY'S  
RECOVERY,  
I MEAN.









YOU'RE  
RIGHT.  
I'VE ACTUALLY  
GOTTEN  
TIRED OF  
DELICACIES.  
What a  
problem!

MS.  
ELGALA,  
WE CAN  
EAT  
LIKE THIS  
WHenever  
WE WANT  
NOW, YOU  
DON'T  
NEED TO  
RUSH.

OH,  
THANK  
YOU.

I GOT  
SOME  
FOIE  
GRAS  
FOR US,  
TOO!



I'M NOT  
SURE  
IT'S A  
GOOD  
THING  
NOW I  
MAY GAIN  
WEIGHT.

NOW  
THAT  
WE'RE A  
SUCCESS,  
WE  
HAVEN'T  
MUCH TO  
DO.



SENIOR  
EXCEL  
HAS  
ALWAYS  
BEEN A  
SUPER-  
WOMAN.

WHERE  
DID SHE  
GET SUCH  
FOISE...  
SUCH SELF-  
CONFIDENCE?

SHE  
SEEMS SO  
COMFORTABLE  
IN HER NEW  
ROLE.



4-1





WELL, I  
SUPPOSE  
I SHOULD  
BE HAPPY  
ANYWAY  
THAT THE  
LOCAL  
ECONOMY  
IS  
THRIVING.



I'M  
SORRY,  
SIR, BUT  
YOU DID  
SAY THAT  
YOU  
WANTED  
TO  
ATTEND  
THE  
CEREMONY.

IT  
SEEMS  
SMALL-  
MINDED  
OF ME.

IT  
DOESN'T  
FEEL QUITE  
SO GOOD  
TO HONOR  
SOMEONE  
ELSE'S  
SUCCESS,  
WHEN MY  
ORGANIZATION  
IS STRUGGLING



IN ANY  
EVENT, IT'S  
PART OF MY  
JOB TO LOOK  
IN ON SUCH  
A  
LARGE-SCALE  
ORGANIZATION.

...HM?











YOU CALL  
YOURSELF...  
DR. KABAPU.  
IS THAT  
CORRECT?

grrr



IT  
WAS  
TOO  
OBVIOUS  
A NAME  
FOR  
ME TO  
SUSPECT.

ILL...  
ha.



IT'S VERY  
NICE TO  
MEET YOU,  
SIR.

CHAIRMAN  
IL PALAZZO



YOU  
CALL  
YOURSELF  
IL  
PALAZZO.

CHAIRMAN  
IL  
PALAZZO.  
OF THE ILL  
GROUP.



YOU  
KNOW,  
THEY SAY  
THAT...

IT'S VERY  
NICE  
TO  
MEET  
YOU,  
TOO.





HAVE WE MET?

SIR...



DO YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?

UM...



I AM MOST GRATEFUL THAT I POSSESS CAPABLE AIDES.

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE A... VERY EFFICIENT STAFF WORKING FOR YOU.



I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT, SIR.

ARE YOU PLAYING WITH MY DOLL... BY ANY CHANCE...?



COULD IT BE THAT YOU ARE MISSING A FAVORITE TOY...?









IT'S...  
IT'S A  
BOOD  
DEADIE!  
I  
M-MEAN,  
A  
DEAD  
BODY!

EXCEL'S AGA



my prince...?

THE BEAUTIFUL BLONDE PRESIDENT SAYS:  
"As a concubine, I cannot reveal these secrets to others."



# Excel Saga 15

## ORIGINAL JAPANESE PRODUCTION STAFF

STORY AND ART BY  
RIKDO KOSHI

CHIEF OF STAFF  
RIKU KUMI

PICTORIAL ASSISTANCE  
AONEKO  
SHOUJI SATO  
RASEN

EDITOR  
IZUMI KAWAI

(In Japanese alphabetical order. Honorary titles are omitted.)

Special Thanks to ETC.



# Guide to *Excel Saga* 15's Sound Effects!

5.1	FX	Karaan Karaan [ding dong]
5.1	FX	pachi pachi pachi pachi... [clapping]
5.1	FX	Pachi Pachi Pachi Pachi... [clapping]
5.1	FX	Karaan Karaan [ding dong]
6.1	FX	Torarara Tataru [wedding march]
7.1	FX	kuwa [glass]
7.1	FX	Dolaa [bang]
7.2	FX	Ban [bang]
7.4	FX	Geta [clank]
8.1	FX	Gara [rattle]
8.2	FX	Geta [clank]
8.2	FX	Bar! [bang]
8.2	FX	Bororara [flipping pages]
8.4	FX	Para Para [flipping pages]
8.4	FX	Do [clenching]
8.6	FX	Go Go Go [rumbling]
8.7	FX	Geta [clank]
8.1	FX	Katsu Katsu [clip, clip]
8.2	FX	Butsu Butsu Butsu [murmuring]
9.3	FX	Kara [rattle]
8.4	FX	Do Do Do [rumble, rumble]
9.4	FX	Kari [click]
9.4	FX	Kari Kari [click click]
9.4	FX	Kakis [click]
9.4	FX	Butsu Butsu Butsu [murmuring]
9.8	FX	Bike [guzzing]
9.8	FX	Geta [clank]
10.6	FX	Peta Peta [patting]
11.3	FX	Bari Bari Bari Bari [scribbling fast]
11.5	FX	Buxa [wroom]
11.8	FX	Zu Zu [twish, twish]
11.9	FX	Bari Bari Bari [crunch, crunch]

Most of Rikdo Koshi's original sound FX are left in their original Japanese in the VIZ edition of *Excel Saga*, exceptions being handwritten dialogue and "drawn" notes that have the character of captions. Although these sounds are all listed as "FX," they are of two types: onomatopoeia (in Japanese, *giseigo*) where the writing is used in an attempt to imitate the actual sound of something happening, and mimesis (in Japanese, *gitaigo*) where the writing is used to attempt to convey rhetorically a state, mood, or condition. Whereas the first type of FX will invariably be portrayed with kana, the second may use kana and/or kanji. One should note that there is often overlap between these two types. As always, the numbers are given in the original Japanese reading order right-to-left.

You are still allowed, however, to write your letters left-to-right to  
*Oubliette* c/o Excel Saga  
VIZ Media, LLC  
P.O. Box 77064  
San Francisco, CA 94107

16.2 — FX Gokun [gutting]  
 16.4 — FX Pika [twitching]  
 16.7 — FX Gyu [squeezing]  
 18.1 — FX Fu [tossing]  
 18.1 — FX Zukyuu [stinging]  
 18.1 — FX Tatsu [piercing]  
 18.2 — FX Paki Paki [snapping]  
 18.2 — FX Ka [washing]  
 18.3 — FX Kain [chasing]  
 20.1 — FX Gu [squeeze]  
 20.1 — FX Bika [twitching]  
 20.3 — FX Gaku [pushing down]  
 21.2 — FX Goso Goso [humbling]  
 21.2 — FX Dokin [throbbing]  
 21.3 — FX Sasa [rustle]  
 21.3 — FX Dokin [throbbing]  
 21.5 — FX Dokin [throbbing]  
 21.5 — FX Dokin [throbbing]  
 22.2 — FX Pimpon (doorbell ringing)  
 22.2 — FX Biss [gasperg]  
 22.4 — FX Goso [humbling]  
 22.4 — FX Sasa [rustle]  
 23.1 — FX Pata Pata Pata [pitter-patter]  
 23.2 — FX Gata Gata [rattle, rattle]  
 23.2 — FX Goso Goso [humbling]  
 23.3 — FX Don [tada]  
 23.4 — FX Gu [clenching]  
 24.1 — FX Baa [rum]  
 25.1 — FX Zouou (whirr)  
 26.1 — FX Ha [gasping]  
 26.2 — FX Fu [thrusting]  
 27.1 — FX Koo (whirr)  
 27.4 — FX Gata [clank]  
 28.1 — FX Sute [clumping]

12.1 — FX Gou [snoring]  
 12.2 — FX Gou [snoring]  
 12.2 — FX Ban [bang]  
 12.2 — FX Gou [snoring]  
 12.4 — FX Sa [Hing]  
 12.4 — FX Biss [rustle]  
 12.5 — FX Gu Gu Gu [rumbling]  
 13.1 — FX Gara Gara [clang, clang]  
 14.2 — FX Dokin [throbbing]  
 14.2 — FX Dokun Dokun [throbbing]  
 14.2 — FX Sae Hae Sae [inhaling and exhaling]  
 14.2 — FX Baken [clank]  
 14.4 — FX Dokun [throbbing]  
 14.4 — FX Cha [click]  
 15.2 — FX Ki [glaring]  
 15.3 — FX Su [leaping forward]  
 15.3 — FX Don [bang]  
 15.4 — FX Pimpon (doorbell ringing)  
 15.5 — FX Bata (bang)  
 15.5 — FX Doso [thud]  
 15.5 — FX Zuka Zuka Zuka Zuka [stomping]  
 16.1 — FX Getse [kicking]  
 16.1 — FX Gyafu [Augh]  
 16.2 — FX Gachen [click]  
 16.2 — FX Beshen [slapping]  
 16.3 — FX Bata [clanking]  
 16.5 — FX Kuru [turning around]  
 16.5 — FX Pasa [dropping]  
 17.1 — FX Kato [plank]  
 17.1 — FX Kororo [rolling]  
 17.2 — FX Ga [darting]  
 17.4 — FX Bishi [ripping]  
 17.4 — FX Biki Biki [cracking]  
 17.6 — FX Za [rustle]

# OUBLIETTE

Your *Excel SAGA* bonus section!

37.4	FX	Zm [zrm]
38.1	FX	Ka Ka Ka [clap, clap]
39.1	FX	Za [scrunch]
39.2	FX	Za [scrunch]
39.4	FX	Kūi Kūi [squeaking]
39.4	FX	Betas Betan [clattering]
39.5	FX	Zuka Zuka [stomping]
39.5	FX	Zuka Zuka [stomping]
40.1	FX	Gyan Gyan [screaming]
40.2	FX	Ua [teeming up]
41.1	FX	Pi [peep]
41.2	FX	Wara Wara [swarming]
41.2	FX	Wara [swarming]
41.2	FX	Win Win [whining]
41.3	FX	Za Za Za [scrunching]
42.3	FX	Ka Ka [clap, clap]
42.3	FX	Kasa Kasa Kasa Kasa [tapping]
42.4	FX	Das [bang]
42.5	FX	Su [lifting his face]
43.3	FX	Ka [clap]
43.3	FX	Wara Wara [swarming]
43.5	FX	Dororo [vroom]
43.5	FX	Kachi Kachi [blinking]
44.1	FX	Chu [click]
44.3	FX	Betas [slamming]
44.3	FX	Beta Betas [slamming]
44.4	FX	Gacha [clacking a meter]
44.5	FX	Dororo [vroom]
44.5	FX	Gya Gya Gya [scratching]
45.1	FX	Das [wham]
45.2	FX	Kūi [squeaking]
45.2	FX	Gya [squeaking]
45.2	FX	Daga [crashing]
46.1	FX	Betan [slamming]

26.2	FX	Su [tiding]
28.3	FX	Gata [kank]
28.3	FX	Za [zrm]
29.2	FX	Su [lifting hand]
29.3	FX	Bishi [cracking]
29.4	FX	Ka [clap]
29.5	FX	Ka Ka [clap, clap]
29.5	FX	Gi [plating]
29.6	FX	Da [fishing]
29.6	FX	Kata [kink]
30.1	FX	Das [Thud]
30.2	FX	Gashin [wham]
30.1	FX	Fa [thrusting]
31.2	FX	Za [zrm]
31.4	FX	Karan [kank]
32.1	FX	Bii Bii [beeping]
32.2	FX	Gata [kank]
32.2	FX	Bii Bii [beeping]
32.4	FX	Bii Bii Bii [beeping]
33.1	FX	Gacha [click]
33.2	FX	Karas [clang]
33.4	FX	Pen [snacking]
34.1	FX	Bun Bubun [swinging]
34.2	FX	Gapa [whacking]
34.2	FX	Das [bang]
34.3	FX	Doo [screaming]
35.1	FX	Doka Doka Doka Doka [stomping]
35.3	FX	Zan Zan Zan Zan [stomping]
35.4	FX	Doso [rumbling]
36.1	FX	Aasawa [gr/ihh]
36.1	FX	Kun Kun [twirling]
37.1	FX	Win [whin]
37.1	FX	Betan [kank]
37.2	FX	Zoku [shuddering]

58.3	FX	Cha [click]
58.3	FX	Be [cutting]
58.4	FX	Zawa [buzz]
58.4	FX	Ka Ka [clap, clap]
58.5	FX	Batan [clattering]
575	FX	Jii [cicling]
576	FX	So [thrusing]
578	FX	Teron [warping]
578	FX	Zai [zooming in]
58.3	FX	Da Da [dashing]
58.8	FX	Wara Wara [swarming]
58.8	FX	Wara Wara Wara Wara [swarming]
59.1	FX	Zu Zu [whereas, whereas]
59.4	FX	So [thrusing]
59.5	FX	Dan [bang]
59.8	FX	Daka [thud]
60.1	FX	Gooo [rumbling]
60.1	FX	Kii [whirr]
62.1	FX	Dan [dashing]
62.2	FX	Busan [grooming]
62.3	FX	Ka [whoosh]
62.4	FX	Ooo [whoop]
63.1	FX	Hyyu [flashing]
63.2	FX	Gri [grrr]
63.4	FX	Ge [screaming]
63.4	FX	Zi Zi Zi Zi [scuttling]
64.1	FX	Kooo [whoosh]
64.3	FX	Kyoto Kyoto [looking around]
64.5	FX	So [lifting hand]
64.7	FX	Gata Gata [rattling]
65.1	FX	Katsuan Katsuan Katsuan [clap, clap, clap]
65.1	FX	Mori Mori [marching]
67.1	FX	Go Go Go [rumbling]
67.1	FX	Dooo [splashing]

46.1	FX	Dororo [vroom]
46.3	FX	Shana [whoosh]
46.4	FX	Zan Zan Zan [marching down to]
47.2	FX	Katsa Katsa [clap, clap]
47.4	FX	Za Zu [slurping]
47.4	FX	Ben [whirr]
475	FX	Za [whirr]
48.1	FX	Pa [Zam]
48.1	FX	Ploo [puking]
48.2	FX	Pwuriku [dripping]
50.1	FX	Makiai [jetting up]
50.1	FX	Klank [click]
50.6	FX	Kach [click]
50.6	FX	Gatin [clung]
51.2	FX	Ira Ira [getting irritated]
51.3	FX	Goto Goto [click-click]
51.3	FX	Gopoo [rumbling]
51.4	FX	Zaco [trooping in]
51.4	FX	Batan [clattering]
51.4	FX	Zaco [trooping in]
51.4	FX	Oooo Oooo [stomping]
52.3	FX	Bikon [twitching]
52.4	FX	Hi Hi Hi Hi Hi [chuckling]
52.4	FX	Biku Biku [twitching]
52.8	FX	Za [whirr]
53.2	FX	Pipopon [diaping]
54.1	FX	Gopooos [vroom]
54.2	FX	Wara Wara Wara Wara Wara Wara Wara [swarming]
54.3	FX	So [raising hand]
54.4	FX	Pasa [honking -- buzz of the city streets]
55.4	FX	Fu [bump]
56.1	FX	Zoo Zoo [trooping in]
58.1	FX	Zoo Zoo Zoo [trooping in]
58.2	FX	Gyuu Gyuu Gyuu [squeezing]

# OUBLIETTE

## Your EXCEL SAGA bonus section!

73.4 — FX Do Do (rumbling)

73.4 — FX Ka (clap)

73.4 — FX Kache Kache Kache (click, click, click)

73.4 — FX Ka (clap)

73.4 — FX Do Do (rumbling)

73.6 — FX Ku (tipping)

73.6 — FX Buchi (snapping)

73.6 — FX Sachias (click)

74.1 — FX Doyan (smacking)

74.2 — FX Pachi (smacking)

74.2 — FX Doyan (thud)

74.3 — FX Guwa (booming in)

75.1 — FX Jala (clang)

75.1 — FX Go (smacking)

75.1 — FX Pin (tensing)

75.2 — FX Boto Boto (dripping)

75.3 — FX Sa (thrusting)

75.3 — FX Jaki Jaki (clicking)

76.1 — FX Guon (jumping)

76.1 — FX Dooa (bang)

76.1 — FX Gyaan (wham)

76.2 — FX Do Do Do Do Do Do Do (rumbling)

76.2 — FX Pan (shooting)

76.2 — FX Kyoa (screaming)

76.2 — FX Kyoa (screaming)

76.2 — FX Bobaba (shooting in succession)

76.2 — FX Waa (screaming)

76.2 — FX Gyaa (screaming)

76.2 — FX Ba Ba Ba (shooting in succession)

76.2 — FX Gyaa (screaming)

76.2 — FX Ba Ba Ba (shooting in succession)

76.2 — FX Pan Pan (shooting)

76.3 — FX Waa Waa (screaming)

76.3 — FX Byon Byon (jumping)

67.2 — FX Do Do Do Do Do (rumbling)

67.2 — FX Za Za Za (splashing)

67.3 — FX Do Do Do Do (rumbling)

68.1 — FX Hyaaa (whirling)

68.1 — FX Doyann (splashing)

68.1 — FX Zui Zui Zui (wiggling)

68.2 — FX Gyaaru (growling)

69.2 — FX Kyo Kyo (screaming)

69.3 — FX Boso (whispering)

69.3 — FX Boso (whispering)

69.4 — FX Gacha Gacha (click, click)

69.5 — FX Hise (whispering)

69.5 — FX Hise (whispering)

69.5 — FX Yo (jelly oop)

69.5 — FX Hise (whispering)

69.5 — FX Ka Ka Ka (buzzing)

70.1 — FX Hise (whispering)

70.1 — FX Boso (whispering)

70.2 — FX Boso (whispering)

70.2 — FX Gacha Gacha (click, click)

70.2 — FX Boso Boso (whispering)

70.2 — FX Gi (clenching)

70.3 — FX Ooo (oh)

71.3 — FX Gatchin (smacking)

71.4 — FX Kiko Kiko (creak, creak)

71.5 — FX Kachin Kachin (clank, clank)

72.1 — FX Gichi (click)

72.1 — FX Kacha (click)

72.4 — FX Bon Bon Bon (munching/crunching)

72.4 — FX Bon Bon (munching/crunching)

72.5 — FX Ahya (tre-hee)

73.1 — FX Gacha (clank)

73.2 — FX Za Zaa (splashing)

73.3 — FX Giri (click)

01.2	FX	Akashaku [laughing]
01.2	FX	Za Zu Za Zu [splashing]
01.3	FX	Aaa [screaming]
01.3	FX	Pokku Pokku Pokku [smacking]
01.4	FX	Du [sh]
01.4	FX	De Da De De Do [rumbling]
01.4	FX	Gyaaa [screaming]
01.5	FX	De Da De [rumbling]
01.6	FX	Zaran [splashing]
02.1	FX	Zupu [splashing]
02.1	FX	Chupu [splashing]
02.2	FX	Zaran [splashing]
02.3	FX	Dapaa [splashing]
02.3	FX	Piku [twitching]
03.2	FX	Gyuu [clenching]
03.3	FX	Zaran [splashing]
03.3	FX	Myaa Myaa [bird cries]
03.4	FX	Zaran [splashing]
03.5	FX	Za [scrunch]
04.1	FX	Zaran [splashing]
05.1	FX	Be Go [gurgling]
05.2	FX	Keke Keke [coughing]
05.3	FX	Gaku [gasping]
05.4	FX	Jara [cling]
06.1	FX	Siku [cracking]
06.2	FX	Debakin [crashing]
06.3	FX	Kyuu [recalling]
06.3	FX	Zun Zuri [badong away]
06.5	FX	Zaran [splashing]
06.5	FX	Boro [plo]
06.6	FX	Kyu [plating]
07.1	FX	Dedoon [rumbling]
07.3	FX	Dedoon [rumbling]
07.4	FX	Uhhshuku [laughing]

70.3	FX	Chun Chun [whic, whic]
70.3	FX	Bae [shooting]
70.3	FX	Kyaaa [screaming]
70.3	FX	Waa [screaming]
70.3	FX	Baban [shooting]
70.3	FX	Baki [smacking]
70.3	FX	Bae [shooting]
72.1	FX	Dee [thud]
72.1	FX	Gyun [whirr]
72.1	FX	Kin [smacking]
72.2	FX	Gyan Gyan [white, white]
72.2	FX	Taan Taan Taan [shooting]
72.3	FX	Sa [ram]
70.1	FX	Ja [click]
70.1	FX	Jaki [click]
70.4	FX	Gata [blank]
70.4	FX	Sa [caw]
70.1	FX	Gyaa [screaming]
70.1	FX	Zu Zu Zu [being swallowed up]
70.1	FX	Bashe Bashe [splash]
70.1	FX	De Da Do [rumbling]
70.2	FX	Bashe [splashing]
70.2	FX	Belo Fuo [coughing hard]
70.2	FX	Bashe [splashing]
70.3	FX	Zupaa [plunging]
00.1	FX	De Da Do Do Do De [rumbling]
00.1	FX	Deban [wham]
00.1	FX	Aa [screaming]
00.1	FX	Zabao [splash]
00.1	FX	Bao [rumbling]
01.1	FX	Zun Zun Zun Zun [zooming in]
01.1	FX	Kyaa Kyaa Kyaa Kyaa Kloo Kyaa [screaming]
01.1	FX	Bata Bata [lacking and wiggling]
01.2	FX	Geshi Geshi Geshi [cracking]

# OUBLIETTE

Your *Excel Saga* bonus section!

103.3	FX	Gshi [squeezing]
103.3	FX	Shovin [zip]
103.3	FX	Pata Pata Pata [pitter-patter]
104.1	FX	Chi Jiri Chirin [sizzling]
104.2	FX	Daa [whirr]
104.3	FX	Gata [clank]
105.1	FX	Nyuu [pressing]
105.2	FX	Gishi [creaking]
105.8	FX	Gau [squeezing]
106.1	FX	Shiin [clp]
106.1	FX	Pata Pata [pitter-patter]
106.3	FX	Fuu [sigh]
107.2	FX	Pika Pika [twitching]
107.5	FX	Pumaa [honking]
109.2	FX	Gata [clank]
109.3	FX	Gata [clank]
109.4	FX	Puu [honking]
109.4	FX	Papaa [honking]
109.5	FX	Ka [clap]
110.1	FX	Gata [clank]
110.2	FX	Nuu [tiram]
111.1	FX	Kata [clank]
111.5	FX	Kapa [click]
112.2	FX	Pi [peep]
112.2	FX	Kata Kata [buzzing]
112.4	FX	Baa [bang]
113.1	FX	Pi [whistling]
113.1	FX	Daa Daa Daa [bang, bang]
113.1	FX	Daa Daa Daa [bang, bang]
113.2	FX	Kata Kata [buzzing]
113.2	FX	Baa [bang]
114.1	FX	Bajin [working]
114.1	FX	Bayuan [snapping]
115.1	FX	Paa Paa [clapping]

87.5	FX	Wahahaha [laughing]
87.5	FX	Ka [glaring]
89.3	FX	Haaa [crying]
89.3	FX	Saaa Saaa [plop, plop]
90.1	FX	Nyaaaaa [whee]
90.2	FX	Baaaa [whirr]
90.3	FX	Qaaa [whoosh]
91.1	FX	Qaaa [whoosh]
91.2	FX	Zaaaa [splashing]
91.3	FX	Ka [glaring]
92.1	FX	Waaaa [crying]
92.1	FX	Gyaa [squeezing]
92.2	FX	U U U [crying]
92.3	FX	Baaa Baaa Baaa Baaa [flapping]
92.3	FX	Nyaaaa [wheeee]
94.1	FX	Gurin [quivering]
94.1	FX	Gashii [grabbing]
94.2	FX	Pachikuri [blinking]
94.3	FX	Suuwa [eyes rolling up]
96.1	FX	Ka Ka [clap, clap]
96.2	FX	Ka Ka [clap, clap]
98.3	FX	Ka [clap]
99.4	FX	Qaaaa [splashing]
99.4	FX	Mogū [screaming]
99.1	FX	Koo [whooooo]
100.1	FX	Nyaaa [whirr]
100.2	FX	Su [appearing quietly]
100.3	FX	Baa [whirr]
100.3	FX	Ka Ka Ka [clap, clap]
101.1	FX	Fasa [rustle]
101.1	FX	Su [reaching out]
102.1	FX	Koto [clank]
102.2	FX	Zuu [clapping]
102.3	FX	Kyu [squeezing]

120.3	FX	Da [deshin]
120.3	FX	Gasa [rustle]
120.3	FX	Shasu [whistle]
120.4	FX	Batsu Batsu [swirling]
120.4	FX	Gasa Gasa Gasa [rustle, rustle]
121.1	FX	Gasa [rustle]
121.1	FX	Hya Hya Hya [zip, zip, zip]
121.2	FX	Hysu [whirr]
121.3	FX	Zaku Zakuza [bang, bang]
121.3	FX	Desun [thud]
121.4	FX	Doso [roaring]
121.4	FX	Zu Zu Zu [zooming in]
121.4	FX	Da [dashing]
122.1	FX	Zee Zee [whoeez, wheee]
122.1	FX	Zusun Zusun [trembling]
122.2	FX	Zusun [trembling]
122.2	FX	Conclave (Note: This is a pun. When the pope passed away, a conclave convened in the Vatican to choose his successor. The sound of the word "conclave" is similar to a Japanese word "konkai" which means an endurance contest. <sup>4</sup> So the author is making fun of the selection of the pope, while referring to an endurance contest between Excel and the man.)
122.2	FX	Zusun [trembling]
122.3	FX	Hyan Hyun [zip, zip]
122.3	FX	Chan Chan [dinging]
122.4	FX	Osun [whirr]
122.5	FX	Bakun [bawling]
122.5	FX	Zusun [tremor]
122.5	FX	Basa Basa [rustle, rustle]
122.6	FX	Gabyu [zip]
122.7	FX	Gu [grabbing]
123.1	FX	Meki Meki Mori [breaking]
123.2	FX	Gao [rumbling]
123.2	FX	Da [dashing]
123.3	FX	Bapoo [ka-boom]
123.3	FX	Dapoo [ka-boom]

115.1	FX	Ho ho [laughing]
115.2	FX	Fan Fan [rumbling]
115.3	FX	Bika [gaspings]
115.3	FX	Kyunaru [twirling]
115.4	FX	Huiban [laughing]
116.1	FX	Gu [clenching]
116.1	FX	Boshi [clapping]
116.2	FX	Ka [clap]
116.3	FX	Su [driving out quietly]
116.3	FX	Ka [clap]
116.4	FX	Ka Ka [clap, clap]
116.5	FX	Touka Touka Touka [clap, clap]
116.6	FX	Ka Ka Ka Ka [clap, clap, clap]
117.1	FX	Touka Touka Touka [clap, clap]
117.3	FX	Kekyakakya [chirping]
117.3	FX	Pinaru [chirping]
117.4	FX	Shon Shon [shaving]
118.1	FX	Shon Shon [shaving]
118.1	FX	Bin [stunk]
118.3	FX	Zusun [rumbling]
118.1	FX	Zusun [trembling]
119.1	FX	Zusi Zushi [trembling]
119.2	FX	Zushi [trembling]
119.2	FX	Bu [tripping]
119.3	FX	Gao [stretching]
119.3	FX	Hya [zip]
119.4	FX	Gasa [rustle]
119.4	FX	Ilan [wham]
119.5	FX	Gasa [rustle]
120.1	FX	Kaki [striking]
120.1	FX	So [wham]
120.2	FX	Kia [sparking]
120.2	FX	Para [scattering]
120.2	FX	Fasa [rustle]



# OUBLIETTE

Your *EXCEL SAGA* bonus section!

132.3	FX	Biku [twitching]
132.4	FX	Bi [colating]
133.1	FX	Birobirohi [game music]
133.3	FX	Ihya [ghew]
134.1	FX	Dondoko Dondoko [tum, tan]
135.2	FX	Un Un [wedding]
135.2	FX	Goyogoyo [rumbling]
136.2	FX	Fun Fun [humming]
136.3	FX	Fun Fun [humming]
136.3	FX	Beshi [snapping fingers]
136.3	FX	Pachi [snapping fingers]
136.5	FX	Hore ["hore"—standard Japanese hore with accent]
137.1	FX	Teredaaa [music]
137.1	FX	Kachi Kachi [click, click]
137.2	FX	Kora [klank]
138.1	FX	Fuu [sigh]
138.2	FX	ShuShu [sniffing]
138.2	FX	Haaa [yawning]
140.2	FX	Dan [bang]
140.4	FX	Gahi [squeak]
141.2	FX	Za [zap]
142.5	FX	Shi Shi [hissing]
143.1	FX	Buu [choking]
143.4	FX	Hira Hira [flap, flap]
145.4	FX	Oui ["Wow!"]
146.1	FX	Bi [polarizing]
146.3	FX	Buucc [vroom]
146.4	FX	Pooaa [berking]
146.4	FX	Buuzzo [vroom]
146.7	Ad	[below "ILL" rd on seat back]
		CASH
		BANKING
		LOANS
147.2	TV Screen	TV Shopping

123.3	FX	Daan [boon]
123.4	FX	Zee Zee [whereas, whereas]
123.5	FX	Zuuzuu [tremor]
123.5	FX	Zuuzuu [tremor]
123.5	FX	Gata Gata Gata [shuddering]
123.5	FX	Zuuzuu [tremor]
123.6	FX	Zuuzuu [tremor]
123.6	FX	Zuuzuu [tremor]
124.1	FX	Gasa Gasa Gasa [rustle, rustle]
124.2	FX	Gasa [rustle]
124.2	FX	Gasa Gasa [rustle, rustle]
124.2	FX	Chuu Chuu [chirping]
124.2	FX	Zuuz [rumble]
124.2	FX	zuu [rumble]
124.2	FX	Pyya [chirping]
124.2	FX	Basa [rustle]
124.2	FX	Pippipi [chirping]
124.2	FX	Basa [rustle]
124.2	FX	Bunyuu [stepping on a slimy object]
124.3	FX	Shaa [heating]
124.4	FX	Shaaa [hissing]
124.4	FX	KG [glaring]
125.1	FX	Zao [wham]
125.2	FX	Uozoo [whoaa]
125.3	FX	Gacha [click]
126.1	FX	Gata [klank]
126.4	FX	Tiraaaa [music]
126.5	FX	Pi [plop]
127.2	FX	Paku Paku [paracking]
127.3	FX	Zaww [shuddering]
128.1	FX	Hyaaa [humming]
132.2	FX	Fuu Fuu [humming]
132.3	FX	Fuu [popping out]

156.1 — FX Fusa (yawning)

158.1 — FX Kishi (squeak)

156.1 — FX Bishi (stretching)

158.2 — FX Kara Kara (rattle, rattle)

156.3 — FX Basa (flap)

158.3 — FX Ata Futa (pawicking)

157.1 — FX Kacha Kacha (kink-kink)

157.2 — FX Haku Haku (munching)

157.4 — FX Noseri (crasping)

157.4 — FX Bote (being clumsy)

157.5 — FX Gatsa Gatsa (munching)

158.1 — FX Za (rum)

158.1 — FX Bakun (clicking the door open)

158.1 — FX Bata (scarrying)

158.3 — FX Gao (vroom)

158.1 — FX Bussan (vroom)

158.3 — FX Kan Kan Kan Kan (clap, clap)

158.4 — FX Ban (wham)

160.1 — FX Ban (wham)

161.1 — FX Ka Ka (clap, clap)

161.2 — FX Ka Ka Ka (clap, clap)

161.2 — FX Ka (clap)

162.1 — FX Oso (rah)

162.1 — FX Oso (rah)

163.4 — FX Osoo (roaring)

164.1 — FX Oo (roaring)

164.1 — FX Oo (roaring)

164.4 — FX Osoo (roaring)

165.3 — FX Gata (squeak)

166.1 — FX Babun (bang)

166.4 — FX Kacha (blank)

166.4 — FX Ban (bang)

167.2 — FX Kyai (squeak)

167.2 — FX Bika (gasp)

147.3 — FX Za (Screach)

147.4 — FX Za Za Za (Scrunch, Scrunch)

147.5 — FX Za (scrunch)

147.5 — FX Iiyu (whiz)

147.5 — FX Kyato Kyato (looking around)

147.5 — FX Ta (dashing)

147.6 — FX Fuu (gush)

148.2 — FX Zawa Zawa Zawa (buzz, buzz)

148.4 — FX Ha (gasp)

148.6 — FX Zawa Zawa (buzz, buzz)

148.2 — FX Gai Gai (squeezing and twisting)

148.3 — FX Gai (poking)

148.5 — FX Zaka (chadder)

150.1 — FX Biku (gasp)

150.3 — FX Zawa Zawa (buzz, buzz)

151.2 — FX Gasa (rustle)

151.3 — FX Goso (rustle)

152.1 — FX Karu (turning around)

152.2 — FX Wai Wai (buzz, buzz)

152.5 — FX Ha ha ha ha (laughing)

152.5 — FX Koo Foo Hoo (screaming)

153.2 — FX Jean (tada)

153.3 — FX Janjaka (cheerful music)

153.3 — FX Ooo (Wow!)

153.3 — FX Gata (blank)

153.4 — FX Janjaka (cheerful music)

153.5 — FX Janjaka Jakapan Jaka (cheerful music)

154.2 — FX Haa (sigh)

154.3 — FX Zu Zu Zu Zu (inhaling)

154.3 — FX Gassa Gassa (rustle rustle)

154.3 — FX Sata Sata (striding)

154.4 — FX Gasa (rustle)

155.1 — FX Wa ha ha (laughing)

155.6 — FX Chichi Chichi Chichi (alarm going off)

# OUBLIETTE

Your *Excel Saga* bonus section!

177.6 — FX Ku [clap]

178.1 — FX Pachi Pachi Pachi Pachi Pachi Pachi [clapping]

178.1 — FX Pachi Pachi Pachi [clapping]

178.1 — FX Wai Wai [buzz, buzz]

178.2 — FX Wai Wai [buzz, buzz]

178.3 — FX Wai Wai [buzz, buzz]

179.2 — FX Wai Wai [buzz, buzz]

179.2 — FX Cho Cho [grabbing quickly]

179.3 — FX Shari Shari [chomp, chomp]

179.5 — FX Chin [ringing]

180.1 — FX Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

180.2 — FX Gakos [clank]

180.3 — FX Zawa Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

180.4 — FX Zawa [buzz]

180.4 — FX Ooo [oh]

180.4 — FX Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

181.1 — FX Zawa Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

181.2 — FX Zawa Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

181.3 — FX Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

181.4 — FX Ba [turning abruptly]

181.4 — FX Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

183.2 — FX Puro [dropping]

183.3 — FX Kuraan [clank]

183.3 — FX Za [stepping forward]

183.4 — FX Don [boom]

183.4 — FX Zaku Zaku Zaku [stomping]

183.4 — FX Doo [shaving]

184.1 — FX Ooo [rum]

184.2 — FX Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

184.3 — FX Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

185.2 — FX Goso [humming]

185.4 — FX Su [stepping forward]

185.5 — FX Gushu [crumpling]

188.1 — FX Pasa [tip]

188.2 — FX Gasa [rustle]

188.3 — FX Gasa [clank]

189.1 — FX Pan [bang]

189.2 — FX Ga [ugh]

170.1 — FX Kacha Kacha [click, click]

170.4 — FX Sata [boom]

171.1 — FX Ta Ta Ta Ta Ta [dashing]

172.2 — FX Uuuu [police car's siren]

172.2 — FX Uu [police car's siren]

172.3 — FX Sas [buzz]

173.1 — FX Sararara [flipping]

174.3 — FX Gata [clank]

174.4 — FX Fuu [sigh]

175.1 — FX Sutsu Sutsu [mumbling]

175.2 — FX So [lighting a cigar]

175.3 — FX Fuu [puffing]

175.3 — FX Fuu [pulling]

175.4 — FX Torururu Torururu [phone ringing]

176.1 — FX Pi [plop]

176.3 — FX Ga [grabbing]

176.4 — FX Chu [grabbing]

176.6 — FX Chu [grabbing]

176.6 — FX Pu [pushing a button]

176.6 — FX Sas [whirr]

176.7 — FX Pi Pi [plop, plop]

176.8 — FX Gata [clank]

176.8 — FX Su [choking]

177.1 — FX Pi [plop]

177.2 — FX Pi [plop]

177.5 — FX Zawa Zawa Zawa [buzz, buzz]

177.6 — FX Wea [chewing]

177.6 — FX Pachi Pachi Pachi Pachi Pachi Pachi [clapping]

Dear Sublette,

As per your instructions, I have come up with a way to explain the odd cover color choices! Based on the characters on the cover, the colors can be explained by who is most in the foreground. The diagram I have created (red-added numbers to a scanned-in cover) shows an example:



With Excel foremost, a color choice would be yellow or blue. With Elgelo foremost, purple, lilac, or indigo. If Hyatt is foremost, pink or blue. All three equal would be green or blue. Minco could add purple.

The others would have mid or dark pink.

The second color should be chosen according to the other characters on the cover or simply by what looks good with the picture. Whether the color is the border or background is negligible.

In the diagram, Umi and Shioji are on the cover as shown by the handy (3), prompting a dark pink (1) area. The purple-ish (2) color matches Umi's dress and thus matches the picture.

As far as the spine goes, the title area should always be the dark blue background (with one exception, but that comes later) with the #1 color as the outline of the white "Excel Saga" logo-thing. The number should resemble the front title banner, #1 color as a background, #2 color as text color, with "Rikdo Kashi" in the #1 color.

The only exception to the spine-coloring rule is that every number ending in 1 should have a different color (e.g., #1 was yellow, #11 was lilac, #21 could be red if it gets that far) then blue. In that case, the spine background color would be the #2 color of the front, and the colors would be swapped (i.e. #1 where #2 would go and vice versa). I hope this works for you. It seems to work for me.

Until volume 14 or my figure set arrives,

Carolyn Belgar

P.S.: The best part of the Excel Saga manga is the Sublette. It's more personal-like and it's really interesting. I was actually sad when it wasn't there and only the sound effects were.

188.2	FX	Pa (splitting)
188.4	FX	To (dashing)
187A	FX	Ki (glaring)
188.2	FX	Basa Basa Basa Basa (stomping)
188.3	FX	Kyalin (twirling)
188.4	FX	Buchi Buchi Buchi (biting)
188.1	FX	Zawa Zawa Zawa (buzz, buzz)
188.2	FX	Ho (sigh of relief)
188.2	FX	Zawa (buzz)
188.2	FX	Wai Wai (buzz, buzz)
188.5	FX	Zawa (pouring rain)
190.1	FX	Pasha Pasha (splash, splash)
190.1	FX	Zawa (pouring rain)
190.1	FX	Gasasa (rustle)
190.1	FX	Gaso (rustle)
190.1	FX	Chapo Chapo (splash, splash)
190.3	FX	Kyapo Kyapo (splash, splash)
190.4	FX	Basa (thud)
190.4	FX	Zawa (pouring rain)
191.1	FX	Zawaaaa (pouring rain)
191.1	FX	Oro Oro Oro Oro (panicking)

Welcome back to Sublette, your teeny-tiny source of information. What could be better than searching these columns, faint as a brown dwarf star, for cryptic clues to what's going down in Excel Saga? Why, sharing the theories, the speculation, and the wild-ass guesses with your kind and my kind, other fans of the series. Drum your fingers on the keyboard till they spell out a pattern reading [www.excelagaforum.com](http://www.excelagaforum.com), the largest Excel Saga fan forum in the English-speaking world, which, at well over 150 members, admittedly makes it a critical target for 130K :DOKSGS eager to demonstrate that the West is helpless before them. Be fearful, be wary, and be assured that somewhere, at-Kharizmi is proud.

But not as proud as I am of the winning entry to the contest announced oh-so-long-ago (actually, it was only two volumes ago). Kick it, Cabs:

# OUBLIETTE

## Your *EXCEL SAGA* bonus section!

Fortunately, *Excel Saga* is not intended to be an educational comic, although you are certainly free to draw life lessons from it; the editor certainly does.

50.6: One of the most delightful aspects of Japan is its dynamic vending-machine culture. It is not uncommon in a city at night—or, still more astonishingly, on a deserted country road—to see one, two, three, or more vending machines on the sidewalk and open for business, whereas in America they would be robbed and vandalized before you can say “Correct Change Only When Lit” (the editor can put no figures—during the last week of freshman year, he participated along with several other students in Wing Dorn in the invasion and shake-induced emptying of the lobby snack machine. It deserved it, the filthy little slag). Not only are vending machines in Japan everywhere, they stock things that America’s Puritan culture would never allow, such as hot chocolate with rum and M&M’s! Tokai Iron Chef creamed-corn soup. The editor likes to double-fist these first thing upon arrival from the machines outside Narita Airport in Tokyo, as confirmation that he has indeed arrived in the land of plenty.

55.2: The editor is reminded of Orson Kuntz’s remark in *Apocalypse* that “we need a good shepherd...”

55.3: The agent with the boom mic has concealed himself in one of Japan’s ubiquitous *nikan* (tangarine) boxes. Of course, we have tangarines in America, but somehow you never come across an actual tangarine box here. This is highly suspicious.

55.6: The curtain boasts that roasted pig intestines will be found for sale within. The stall on the right features *oden*, which play the same role in Japanese drinking culture that diner kebabs do in the U.K. *Oden* is a Japanese dish containing such items as radish, potato, fish cake, boiled eggs simmered in a special broth made from soy sauce, *mirin* (a type of sake used in cooking), fish flakes, etc. There are several local variations throughout Japan. A visitor might flip to see it on the counter of a Japanese 7-11 (about the same place the slowly revolving weenies would be in its American brethren) but it doesn’t taste the same unless consumed whilst drunk at a traditional street stall. Japan’s greatest *dōjinshi* series, the long-running *Chosen Ame* (since 2002 called *Megaton Punch*), edited by Ken’ichi Sonoda, has a tributeal piece by a contributor named “Dr. Mirao,” where the issue’s topic (*oids*, old kids’ TV shows, Go Nagai manga, etc.) is discussed by the proprietor and customer of an *oden* stall.

56.1: The Japanese phrase was *Utae Kiri no, gajin-san da ne!* Are we to take that to mean if Palazzo doesn’t look Japanese? You can never be sure in manga by appearances.

Well, I don’t know about a figure set, but you are the winner of THE PRIZE, which might have been more impressive back when we were among the only ones to have one: a 7-inch StoryImageFigure of Rappanmatsu Nishiki, aka Sincand, aka Rappanmatsu II, wearing her Birdme-By-The-Beach wings from Vol. 07 and clutching a hapless Minco. Sculpted by (from here on, imagine this in the voice of Bob Barker) Taji Tanaka and painted by Shelby of Fine’s Gerdin, Nishiki is posed reeling a head curled like a cat’s paw, and stands upon a base bearing the disturbing if fundamentally accurate phrase *Shioji Steve System* (“Shioji” is how “Shioji” is spelled out in the Kanrei-shiki romanization, a somewhat silly system devised by the Japanese government that the Japanese themselves seldom bother to use). The figurine is labeled “Ages 14 and Up,” which is slightly ironic considering that’s about the age Shioji tends to lose interest.

2: This is an attempt to translate the concept of “banshere” (this illustration and the *banshere*? slang appeared on the back of the slipcover on the original Japanese Vol. 15; see also the notes for pgs. 192 and 193), a character description sometimes used in dating-sim games. Note that it has been demonstrated previously in *Excel Saga* that Matsuya has to virtually be on the brink of death in order to display softness. To be fair, Matsuya carries the sobering responsibility of being one of the few people in the cast to possess no ounce of sense.

11.5.b: Watanabe is counting the passing cars. Municipal governments occasionally hire people (presumably people such as him) to research the traffic flow. Also, as you might guess, in 11.8 he is volunteering to be a test subject for experimental drugs.

12.4-5: The old Samiyoshi is examining is, of course, in *Excel Saga*’s own magazine, *Young King Dora*. In bygone days American comics were famous for selling such things as “X-Ray Specs” and string-mounted plastic bags designed to simulate the spirits of the dead; these days the ads are all for extreme milk drinks and the Scion TB. But although manga magazines have a far smaller percentage of ads than American comics, most foreign readers never get to see them at all, and groo in wonder at the ghastly tat sometimes displayed within.

13.2: It’s not just an energy drink, it’s a “Saper Aphrodisiac Drink,” which may explain why Matsuya is holding it that way.

16.2: The title of the DVD is *The Man with Glasses and a Stone on the Street*.

32.6: Besides the *kanji* for “Emergency” scrolling by, we see “ALARM” which has been the preferred spelling in manga and anime since at least 1985’s *Megazone Two Three*.

101.1: Just in case you were wondering, it's the same phrase (in Japanese, *saa, Aoi Kai* that'll Palazzo, the Fukuoka Mack, used with *Ha-cha* on p. 26. The interjection *saa* can also be translated as "new" or "well."

105.1: Miwa's kind of like if Anna Ohum used her powers for evil instead of good.

109.3: *Ashihi* means "the first," i.e., *Ropponmatsu I*, just as *Nisebiki* means "the second," i.e., *Ropponmatsu II*. Just in case you decided to start reading with Vol. 15.

111.2: Matsuya uses the Japanese equivalent of the expression "penny wise, pound foolish"—*yasu karae, wari karae*.

111.4-5: If you recall, Excel and Hyatt had an exceedingly brief job at Better Electronics in Vol. 7, *Mission 1*, which perhaps explains Samiyoshi's m/m and hwa's shock later on in 135.2. Named for the real-life Fukuoka store *Best Denki* ("Best Electronics") where Rikdo-saa, it would seem, has had some unpleasant experiences.

113.1: It took the combined efforts of Andy Nakatani and Masumi Washington to suss this one out, but the *kanji* on the back of hwa's pop-squad coat are pronounced in Japanese: *ro, bu, to, ro, ri, su, and io*. These are similar to the type of coats the ACROSS girls considered adopting as a new uniform in Vol. 11.

122.2: In the original Japanese, we hear a cry from the forest of *kokurabe*, which in Japanese means "endurance contest," but is also a way of pronouncing the word *co-clave*, as in the conclave that was held to select a new Pope after the death of John Paul II, which occurred right around the time this story was drawn (April 2005; it appeared in the June 2005 issue of *Young King Ours* magazine). By coincidence, the early-'80s manga adventures of John Paul II are portrayed in another Viz manga out right around now: *Go!go! 13 Vol. 06: One Minute To Midnight*. By a still more startling coincidence, I believe that *Go!go! 13* and *Excel Saga* are the only two Viz manga to have featured Messianic references.

135.1: The sign above the guys says "All You Can Eat For 500 Yen: Korean Barbecue, Ramen, Chinese dishes, Desserts, Salads." Right now, that's about US\$4.25 or UK£2.25; cheap, indeed.

137.2: The labels on the game case say: "Age Limitation: Adult Only," "Blaze Controller/NoJocon (except for buttons) compliant, non-dual shock-compliant," "Personal memory card (PM4) 4286B end over," "ILL Co., Ltd.," "Duplication without prior consent, mining or marketing this product is prohibited. Those who violate this regulation will be forced to perform *han-kiri*." "PlayStation2 (For use on the planet

63.1: Is this, then, Dr. Kabapu's real name? You can, as you might guess, find it in Fukuoka, at [www.xxxx-tenjin.com](http://www.xxxx-tenjin.com).

68.1: Excel seems to wear that distinctive thick braid depending on circumstances. The circumstances seem to have been inopportune in prison, but she did wear it in the last chapter of Vol. 14 (after having worn her hair loose while she and Elgola were living at the beach shack).

69.3: Although these may appear to be thought balloons, they are whispering, as we know by the distinctive *Jojo* sound FX. On these rare occasions when characters in *Excel Saga* think, Rikdo seems to represent it with a distinctive kind of balloon with thin, closely-packed black lines; for example, in Vol. 14, Elgola's always-audible mind in 168.2, or Excel's paranoia in the park on p. 33-34.

69.3.1: By the way, in the original, Elgola said that the captain's speech reminds her of a manga, game, and movie of about ten years ago—this is possibly a reference to *Battle Royale* (although the film was released only five years before this chapter, which appeared in the May 2005 issue of *Young King Ours*, although Patrick Macias (author of *Otaku in USA*, which was recently published in Japanese only and attempts to explain us to them) believes it may instead refer to the '90s *V-Cinema* (straight to video) remake of the 1970s *Female Prisoner Scorpion* women-in-prison series, whose theme, *Omo no arami-bushi* (A Woman's Embrace Song) was prominent in the soundtrack to *Kill Bill*. I would like to say this is all one sentence, but I've just made it two.

69.1.14159: That bit about "men occasions" was a low blow, and the editor is sorry for it.

71.5: Note that the marks on the wall behind Excel each have five strokes; this is the Japanese equivalent of the Western counting mark for five, *ike*. There are twenty such marks (ending in despairing downward scratch); if we take them as days, which seems most likely, they were in the "slams" for at least three months.

84.1: Thanks to Masae Keliagg, we realized that the "good" face of the priest is that of Taro Yamada, the generically-named hero of *Joakaben*, the 1972 baseball manga by Shinji Nishishima, which in 1976 premiered on Fuji TV as a highly successful anime series. Its 143-episode run makes *Fullmetal Alchemist* look like a steaming pile of crap.

86.1: The "bad" face, however, is based on the "mysterious priest" from Vol. 21 of *Berserk*.

89.3: "Radar?" Well, Lord El Palazzo (but which one?) is all about the overtechnology.

# OUBLIETTE

## Your *EXCEL SAGA* bonus section!

Yes, yes, we know that Vol. 16 is already out in Japan. And we intend to do something about that, just you bet. You please keep sending in your letters to *Oubliette*, c/o Excel Sage, VIZ Media, LLC, P.O. Box 77064, San Francisco, CA 94107. This installment has been brought to you by Oasis's "Same Might Say."

earth...!" PlaySituationZ, of course, is the name of one of Rikdo Keshi's doujinshi.

152.5: Suniyoshi says *ameto!*, a contraction of "Americon tay." A similar phrasing is used when the Japanese want to describe an American comic book: *amekomi*. The "komi" in this case is of course short for *kōmikkū*, but an important point here is that the Japanese freely use this loan-form of "comics" to describe their own manga—only *amekomi* refers specifically to American comic books (which, unfortunately, most Japanese have as stereotyped an impression of as Americans do themselves). Japan's largest fan convention, after all, is called "Comic Market," not "Manga Market."

157.5: Hide is in northern Gifu prefecture in Japan. You will say, *ah*, now that explains everything.

170.1: The original of Egala's phrase is *Otoko no kibana!*, which sounds suspiciously like a quote from *Evangelion*. Is it?

170.3: The outfits Senior Hyatt and Egala are wearing here—indeed, the whole scene—is a play on *Cat's Eye*, an early-'80s manga-turned-anime by Tsukasa Hojo, much better known in the West for his *City Hunter*. This is the second time the reference has come up in *Excel Saga* in the conversation about uniforms from Vol. 11, the tighties Hechen suggested they wear were the same outfits (there were three girls in *Excel Saga*, but the current version of Excel considers it beneath her dignity to do field work).

174.9: The mustachioed Mayer Kanio Kendo (not "Rikdo Kunie") on whose campaign Hyatt and Excel made big bucks way back in Vol. 03.

177.2: Dr. Kahapu actually is the sort of man who would say "What in Mazes?"

192: This is a translation of the message found beneath the slipcover on the back of the original Japanese edition of Vol. 15.

193: This message appeared on one of the flaps of the slipcover. Of course, since the English edition of *Excel Saga* has no slipcover, we try to preserve this kind of material by running it on various inside pages; pgs. 2, 192, and 193 all represent such examples.